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FBIS-LAT-89-153 *10 August 1989*

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Cuba

Castro Visits Train Accident Victims in Matanzas

FL0908180089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Text] On Saturday [5 August] night, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro visited several of the hospitals in Matanzas Province where the people who were injured in the tragic train accident are being cared for. The accident occurred on Friday [4 August] morning in the main passage between Los Arados and Colon. [Video shows Castro visiting little girl in hospital room.]

[Begin recording] [Castro, addressing patient] Are you better now?
[Patient No 1] Yes, I am doing much better.
[Unidentified speaker No 1] This patient had a fractured pelvis.

[Castro] But that can be taken care of, right?
[Speaker No 1] Yes, it will be taken care of. The prognosis for this patient is very good. [end recording]

Fidel's tour began at the Provincial (Jose Ramon Lopez Tavranes) Clinical-Surgical Hospital located in Matanzas City. There, Fidel visited the patients in the orthopedics, recovery, and intensive therapy wards. He was interested in every case's clinical development, the attention they have received, and the possibilities for the victims' speedy recovery. [Video shows Castro conversing with hospital officials at table.]

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker No 2] There was one patient who was released because his lesions were mild, and another patient was transferred to Camaguey. There are two in serious condition here and it is better to leave them where they are.

[Castro] Nowhere else could they receive the care they are receiving here, right?
[Unidentified speaker No 3] Everything that can be done is already being done. [end recording]

In a meeting held with provincial leaders and hospital directors, Fidel examined the possibilities of expanding the hospital's capacities and services. [Video shows Castro visiting little girl in hospital room.]

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker No 4] The leg has some bruises and it hurts. She also has some fissures on her arms.

[Castro] What train was she on?
[Speaker No 4] She was on the one coming from Camaguey to Havana.

[Castro] That was the one that was coming fast?
[Speaker No 4] Yes. According to the version people are giving, that was the one that was coming fast. She has [word indistinct] in the head. She was brought here in the morning. When the accident occurred, she was first taken to (?Colon) but since there were more resources here, she was brought to this hospital. There is great care here. The nurses, the party officials provide great care. I was reading to her so she would be entertained.

[Castro] How old is she?
[Speaker No 4] She is only 3 years old.

[Castro] She likes looking at the pictures [in the book]?
[Speaker No 4] She is entertained looking at them, and I read to her so she'll get sleepy. [end recording]

At the (Eliseo Noel Camano) Hospital, also located in the capital of Matanzas, Fidel was informed about the condition of the children who are getting care for the injuries they received. He was able to see, with satisfaction, the quality of the care they are receiving and the favorable progress of all the cases.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker No 5, showing Castro the injury of the little girl they are looking at] She has a broken hip.

[Castro] A hip fracture?
[Speaker No 5] Yes. We are doing a [words indistinct] on her. She is not being given antibiotics or anything.

[Castro] How old is she?
[Speaker No 5] She is 8 years old.
[Patient No 2, interrupting] No, I am 7 years old.
[Speaker No 5] She is 7.

[Castro] Seven. Where is she from?
[Speaker No 5] She is from Camaguey.

[Castro] Was she on the train from Camaguey?
[Speaker No 5] Yes, she was in the first car. [Camera cuts to a separate room where Castro is shown speaking to journalists.]

[Castro] I wanted to come and pay a visit here to see [rephrases] as an act of solidarity. I am told that the injured have received the best attention. However, the visit was also useful because I was able to see that the province needs to accelerate the completion of the provincial hospital. So, we met to discuss what needed to be done in order to finish it in 1 and ½ years.

[Unidentified reporter] In 1 and 1/2?
[Castro] Yes. What I mean is that I would like to have it in operation by early 1991. We are going to take all the measures. We will have to look for some special resources. However, as I see how important this service is at this moment, I can see that the province has to have that hospital. I think it would be only fair to make the effort to finish it.

[Unidentified reporter] So, does that mean that we can count on having the hospital for the commemoration of the 26 July here in Matanzas in 1991?

[Castro] I do not know if you'll earn the opportunity to host it.

[Unidentified reporter] We are working on that.
[Castro] I hope that by 26 July 1991 the hospital will be in full operation.

[Unidentified reporter] Despite the limitations the hospital has, how did you find the patients?
[Castro] The patients have had excellent care. The hospital has two things: It has highly qualified personnel and the necessary equipment. It does not have the ideal facility. It does not have the room. It is being expanded. Another area is being looked into to make room for 80 more beds. What is the name of that place where they are looking?

[Several reporters answer simultaneously] [Name indistinct]

[Castro] I think they will finish the expansion soon. After having worked on it for several years, I think it is important to finish it. Then we will have two hospitals. We will remodel this one; it will not have 400 beds but approximately 250 beds. So, the total number of hospital beds the province will have available will be approximately 1,000.

[Unidentified reporter] Does that number include the military hospital?
[Castro] No, not counting the military hospital. We will have approximately 1,000 beds counting the new hospital and this one, which would be the municipal hospital. The provincial hospital would have approximately 730 beds. Adding the beds at the two hospitals, we would have approximately 1,000 beds. That is a good number. This hospital is very good. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Fidel arrived at the Mario Munoz Monroy Hospital in Colon where he also spoke for a long time with doctors, patients and their relatives. He was informed about the condition of each of the injured victims and about the care they are receiving. [Video shows Castro visiting two girls in a hospital room.]

[Begin recording] [Castro] You will be getting better and by the time the school year begins, you will be fine.

[Unidentified speaker No 6] [Words indistinct] is a school for sports.

[Castro] A school for sports?
[Speaker No 6] Yes, here in Matanzas.

[Castro] [Passage indistinct] How long have you been in that school?
[Patient No 3] Two years.

[Castro] Don't worry, soon you'll be practicing again. [Castro looks at other patient.] What about her, what school does she attend?

[Speaker No 6] She attends the Camaguey school; she is in the eighth grade.

[Patient No 4] Ninth grade.

[Speaker No 6] She is going on to the ninth grade.

[Castro] I am very happy to have been able to greet you and see that you are really getting better. Until later. [end recording]

During conversations with leaders of the party, government, and health sector of the province, Fidel assessed the possibility of expanding the Colon Hospital by building a maternity-infant ward, as well as additional hospital facilities in Matanzas Province. [Video shows Castro talking to a middle-aged woman in a hospital room—close-up of woman with bruises on face and hands.]

[Begin recording] [Patient No 5] I have received very good care. The care has been wonderful from the 1st day. This hospital is a [words indistinct]. You should feel proud of this hospital.

And, when I was out there in the woods, the comrades from the EJT [Youth Labor Army] and the peasants, they put themselves at risk. They would take us out from under the trains. Frankly, it is such an emotional thing to feel so well cared for. When I arrived here, it was truly wonderful.

I was scared, well, because it is such an isolated place. I thought: We are going to die here. There wasn't anyone around. But those comrades from the public order unit called for help. The comrades from the EJT arrived on tractors and trucks. When the comrades were trying to carry us, they would fall, and then they would pick us up again. They used one of those machines for me. Then, they had to drag me because I have a [word indistinct], and I couldn't stand up. The poor comrades had to drag me, and I weigh a lot. They fell once and fell again. This kind of accident has never occurred in the province. This is the first time.

[Castro] [Passage indistinct]

[Patient No 5] [Words indistinct] Fidel, you have really made a medical force [of Cuba]. You can be very proud of this. Despite setbacks, you have this victory which is great. It is the work of the people, and that is the victory. We are not lacking in the area of work. I am very grateful for everything. [Video shows Castro leaning over and lightly kisses woman on cheek.] [end recording]

Report on Arrest of Human Rights Activist

FL0908123989 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] At the express request of the minister of justice to the attorney general of the Republic, citizens Elizardo Sanchez Santa Cruz Pacheco, Ivan Abi Cobas Nunez [name as heard], and (Hubert Perez Marino) will be subject to judicial proceedings for the crime of disseminating false news, as stipulated in Article 115 of the Penal Code.

The accused, known for their counterrevolutionary affiliation, carried out a slander campaign by making statements to U.S. television and to the anti-Cuban radio, which is sponsored by the U.S. Government, with the purpose of discrediting the actions of the Cuban tribunals against the group of drug traffickers Ochoa-La Guardia.

These individuals said that Arnaldo Ochoa had appeared on trial under the effect of drugs which the authorities had deliberately administered to him. Furthermore, they made accusations of mistreatment and psychological tortures against the arrested. More recently, one of them declared that the burial place of the persons who had been sentenced to the maximum penalty had been concealed from their relatives.

For this crime, for which the Penal Code considers a sentence of 1 to 4 years imprisonment [privacion de libertad], the counterrevolutionary elements will have to go before the People's Provincial Tribunal of Havana City.

Coup Attempt After Ochoa Execution Fails

FL0908194489 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1836 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Santiago, 9 August (NOTIMEX)—According to Carlos Oviedo Cavada, bishop of the Chilean city of Antofagasta, a failed coup attempt may have recently taken place in Cuba.

In remarks made to a regional newspaper, the bishop said that during the past meeting of the Latin American Bishops Conference (CELAM) in Colombia, it was stated that the coup attempt took place after the execution of the officials accused of drug trafficking. [Former Cuban Interior Ministry officials Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez, Jorge Martinez Valdez, Antonio de la Guardia Font, and Amado Padron Trujillo were executed by firing squad on 13 July 1989.]

In statements published in Santiago, Oviedo Cavada said that certain Cuban bishops who were attending the meeting said that—according to high-level remarks—the coup was thwarted after the public trial was held for the officials involved in drug trafficking. That is what the people were saying; we do not know how true this is, said the prelate, who is considered to be the most likely successor to the cardinal archbishop of Santiago, Francisco Fresno, who resigned from the archdiocese this year because of his age.

The bishop of Antofagasta—the most important region north of the Chilean capital—added that the Latin American bishops commented positively about the current political process in Chile. He added that the conflict in Central America, the Panamanian crisis, terrorism in Peru and Colombia, and other topics were discussed at the annual meeting.

Malmierca Ends Talks With Yugoslav Official

FL0908160089 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2230 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Interview with Foreign Minister Isidiro Malmierca by PRENSA LATINA Correspondent Hector Danilo Rodriguez in Belgrade, Yugoslavia—recorded]

[Text] [Rodriguez] Just before traveling to the Republic of Bosnia in the center of Yugoslavia, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca ended 2 days of talks with Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Budimir Loncar during which he discussed the ninth [Nonaligned Movement] summit meeting in depth, documents, and other matters of bilateral interest.

[Malmierca] The two sides agreed on the benefits of having in-depth discussions on some areas regarding the needed struggle, the needed solidarity with the peoples who suffer from colonial domination. This should be one of the top priorities of the work of the Nonaligned Movement. We need to be persistent and reinforce our work to help underdeveloped countries, Third World countries, so that they can change their current situation through finding a real, permanent, and lasting solution to the foreign debt problem and the need to unite all efforts to establish the new international economic order.

Risquet Welcomes Combatants From Angola

FL0908151689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Another group of over 130 internationalist combatants has returned to the fatherland after having successfully completed the mission assigned to them by the Revolution in the brother People's Republic of Angola.

Upon their arrival in Cuba, they were greeted by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee Politburo and party secretary; Julio Teja, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of public health; and Division General Julio Casas Regueiro.

Lieutenant Colonel Jesus Gonzalez Gonzalez was at the head of the recently arrived group. Among the combatants, 56 bear the Internationalist Combatant Medal, first class, and 79 bear the second class medal. Meanwhile, all bear the Cuba-People's Republic of Angola Victory Medal. Forty-one of the combatants bear the Distinguished Service Award; 20 the Cuito Cuanavale Defense Medal; and 1 the Ignacio Agramonte Medal.

Attends El Cacahual Ceremony

FL0908181589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Pride was present today inside each internationalist combatant who participated in the tribute paid to Lieutenant General Antonio Maceo, his aide Captain Panchito Gomez Toro, and Comrade Blas Roca Calderio in El Cacahual. Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo, attended the welcoming ceremony for some 130 combatants who returned to the fatherland.

[Begin recording] [Julio Teja, member of the PCC Central Committee, identified by caption] In a ceremony such as this one, we also have to pay tribute to your most beloved relatives who, with silent heroism and stoicism, have endured your absence during all these years. We feel from the bottom of our hearts the need to join in the emotion, happiness, and pride they feel as they see you return to the fatherland.

[Risquet] Where are you from?
[First unidentified soldier] I am from Pinar del Rio but I live here in Havana.

[Risquet] In Havana. Do you have children?
[First soldier] Yes, I have one.

[Risquet] How old is he?
[First soldier] He is 6 years old.

[Risquet] Where did you go in Angola?
[Second unidentified soldier] Huambo and Caba.

[Risquet] Huambo?
[Second soldier] And Caba.

[Risquet] Cama [as heard]. Before or after the airport?
[Second soldier] Before and after.

[Risquet] To make sure that it was built. [addresses all present] What you need to do now is to join the creative work, the work of the Revolution, which marches victorious under the leadership of our commander in chief. Despite difficulties, we move forward rectifying mistakes and taking the right path. Nothing or nobody will make us change our Marxist-Leninist ideas, our internationalist vocation. This small island will continue waving its banner high in front of the imperialist monster which is 90 miles away. We will not lose sleep over it or ever let our legs tremble, and our heart will remain in the middle of our chest. So, welcome to the fatherland and congratulations. [applause]

[Third unidentified soldier] Long live revolutionaries.
[Crowd] Viva!

[Third soldier] Long live the PCC.
[Crowd] Viva!

[Third soldier] Long live Fidel.
[Crowd] Viva!

[Third soldier] Wherever, however, for whatever.
[Crowd] Commander in chief, give us your orders! [applause] [end recording]

Combatants Briefed Before Going Home

FL1008010889 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Every internationalist combatant who returns to the fatherland spends 72 hours in a Revolutionary Armed Forces transit unit where he makes the necessary arrangements to return to the nation's economic and social life.

One of the first things the combatant is briefed on when he comes to this unit is the job opportunities he has. Among other job offers, the combatant is given the option to take technical courses. He would then be placed in some organ such as UNECA [Union of Caribbean Construction Enterprises], SIME [Steelworking Industry], light industry, or the INTUR [National Institute of Tourism] among others. The combatants can also become members of the National Revolutionary Police or continue their studies to then be admitted into a university.

Recreation in this unit is guaranteed. To do this, there are pool tables, video games, and other attractions. The workers at Loma Blanca work hard to ensure good service. The menu, for example, is extensive. Of course, there is nostalgia. The young men constantly call their relatives or send them urgent cables to give them the good news of their arrival. All of the combatants anxiously await the moment when they will be reunited with their parents, brothers, children, or girlfriends. They talk of future reunions with their comrades and remember sad moments. The emotions are diverse but they all have the same conviction: They want to be useful.

Rafael Rodriguez Meets With ISO Director

FL1008021489 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0202 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with (Alfredo Ricard), executive director of the International Sugar Organization [ISO]. During the talks that were held in

Havana, the two men discussed the international sugar market and the production of sugar substitutes, especially corn syrup which is rich in fructose. They also discussed the effect this would have on the market and the economies of underdeveloped sugar-exporting nations.

Later, they discussed the possibilities of reinitiating negotiations to reach a new agreement containing economic clauses, something that is affected by the policies of the main, developed, capitalist countries.

In the same way, the Cuban vice president talked about the dramatic economic situation facing the Third World, especially the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Caribbean Affairs

Perez To Set Up Caribbean Community Cooperation

FL0808183089 Bridgetown CANA in English 2002 GMT 5 Aug 89

[By Debra Ransome]

[Text] Mount Irvine Bay, Tobago, Aug 5, CANA—Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has agreed to set up a special co-operation committee bringing together Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil and the 13-nation Caribbean Community to achieve Caricom and Latin American co-operation. The establishment of this forum was one of the first decisions coming out of a meeting between Perez and five Caricom leaders. No details on the work of the committee were given.

Perez on Saturday urged the Caricom countries to come together with their Latin American neighbours. Perez made an emotional plea in scenic Tobago for unity between the English-speaking Caricom grouping and Venezuela at the start of morning roundtable talks with Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson, Barbados leader Erskine Sandiford, Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, St Vincents leader James Mitchell, and President Desmond Hoyte of Guyana.

"We have to get rid of our divisions," Perez told the leaders at the start of talks at Mount Irvine Bay Hotel, Tobago. Perez was due to hold separate bilateral talks with each leader Saturday afternoon.

"I am going to ask you to allow Venezuela to be part of this venture to serve you," he added. "We are living in a world that is very different than the one that existed before...that formed our colonial mentality...We still think that there are countries that are better than us."

Perez pointed to developments such as the breaking down of trade barriers between the United States and Canada, in Europe, and thrusts by the Soviet Union and China.

"What are we going to do in all of this?...We've got to demand our blocs [as received] in the huge economic blocs that are forming," Perez said. "If we are not bold enough...we're going to waste time."

Perez suggested co-operation with Trinidad and Tobago in the form of a joint venture fishing company with Venezuela and the use of Venezuelan resources in Trinidad's State Oil Company. "We are offering a co-operative effort," Perez said. The Venezuelan leader described as "unpardonable" the waste of resources not shared by the two countries.

Prime Minister Robinson opened the talks describing them as seeking "new ways of solving old problems." Robinson also pointed to changes in the international scene which he said unity would hold to combat.

The six leaders met earlier to thrash out an agenda for talks between delegations before lunch. Conference sources said items on the agenda included dealing with drugs, Venezuela's application for observer status with Caricom, and increased trade between the countries.

Plans Debt Conference

FL0808143589 Bridgetown CANA in English 2311 GMT 5 Aug 89

[Text] Mount Irvine Bay, Tobago, August 5, CANA—Venezuela and five Caribbean Community countries agreed Saturday to work towards putting together an international conference to look at the problem of Third World debt.

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson announced the decision to plan the conference following a meeting with visiting Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez.

Perez met in Tobago Saturday for four hours of roundtable talks with Robinson, Prime Ministers Michael Manley of Jamaica, Erskine Sandiford of Barbados, and James Mitchell of St Vincent, and President Desmond Hoyte of Guyana. Apart from promotion of the conference, six leaders also agreed to speed up the integration process between Latin America and the Caribbean. The Caricom leaders are also to take back to the 13-nation Caricom grouping proposals for collaboration in the use of marine resources.

In terms of integration, mechanisms are to be put in place to deepen integration between the Latin American group of countries and the Caribbean. Perez volunteered to approach Brazil and Colombia to sit on a task force aimed at setting up links with the English-speaking Caricom grouping.

Robinson said moves to forge links with South American countries were already taking place on a bilateral basis and that it was better for such developments to go forward on a multilateral level to ensure that other bilateral arrangements were not harmed.

"It would be much more effective and beneficial to both regions if we were to deal with it on a multilateral way," Robinson told reporters after the talks.

"Fundamental changes are taking place...Whilst we in the Caribbean are in danger of being left in a sort of backwater, isolated in backward little fragments of land floating about without any direction in the Caribbean Sea, so we are facing the challenge of expediting something which we knew many years ago was the way in which we should go and that is closer co-operation."

Robinson added: "It's the only direction in which we can sensibly move if we are even to survive in the 21st Century."

"You have to have a critical mass in order to generate the kind of activity that can produce continuing enhancement of the productive process that is necessary for continuous development," Robinson said.

The leaders went into a round of bilateral talks Saturday night. Perez was scheduled to fly back to Venezuela Saturday night.

Caribbean Broadcasting Union Meets in Paramaribo
FL0908201389 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Yesterday evening, the 20th annual meeting of the Caribbean Broadcasting Union [CBU] took place in Paramaribo. Representatives from (?10) Caribbean countries, including Barbados, Jamaica, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, and St Lucia, are participating in the meeting. During the meeting of [words indistinct] the activities of the media organization over the past year will be evaluated.

A new CBU board will also be elected. [Words indistinct] for the meeting which will be held tomorrow evening. The Caribbean Broadcasting Union was founded 20 years and was aimed at a professional approach in regional communications and the exchange of news and programs. Suriname has been represented for 15 years now in the organization by the Suriname Television Foundation, STF. The CBU is based in Barbados.

Antigua and Barbuda

Government Announces, Swears In Ministers
FL0908211989 Bridgetown CANA in English 2020 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Aug 9, CANA—The Antigua and Barbuda Government has announced a new Ministry of Trade, Industry and Commerce, being headed by Hugh Marshall.

Marshall, formerly minister without portfolio with responsibility for trade, was sworn in Tuesday.

Six other Antigua Labour Party [ALP] members who had resigned their seats to contest by-elections that were eventually called off after an opposition boycott were again sworn in as ministers. Marshall had been assigned to the Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Energy and Foreign Affairs, headed by deputy prime minister, Lester-Bird.

His responsibilities will include the Central Marketing Corporation (CMC), a local agricultural depot, and consumer affairs.

"I will have to have some discussions with the minister of agriculture and his technicians on what the problems are at the CMC. If it is not paying, it is not paying. Well then some surgery will have to be made," Marshall said when asked about his immediate plans for his ministry.

The ALP politicians had resigned their seats in the House of Representatives following a high court decision June 30 to nullify the election in the St John's City West Constituency after the controversial March 9 general elections. The seats were challenged by writs filed by candidates of the opposition United National Democratic Party (UNDP).

The poll had been marred by irregularities, including a shortage of ballot papers. The electoral office had extended the voting hours in some constituencies to make up for a delay in voting.

On nomination day for the new poll, August 4, only the seven ALP candidates were nominated and under the country's Constitution the members were re-elected unopposed.

The UNDP boycotted the poll because its demands for electoral reform had not been met. The leftist Antigua Caribbean Liberation Movement said it had financial problems.

The ALP candidates who were sworn in Tuesday and their ministries are: Vere Bird Jr—minister of public works and communications; Adolphous Freeland—minister of health and labour; Hilroy Humphreys—minister of agriculture, lands, fisheries and housing; Marshall Henderson Simon—minister without portfolio (responsible for port matters); Eustace Cochrane—minister without portfolio in the ministry of public utilities and aviation; and Mowlyn Joseph—minister without portfolio in the ministry of economic development, tourism, energy and foreign affairs.

At Government House, where Governor General Sir Wilfred Jacobs administered the oaths. [sentence as received]

Dominican Republic

Former President Jorge Blanco To Return

FL0908150789 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2230 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Text] Former Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco will return to Santo Domingo from Miami today [8 August] or tomorrow. He will continue attending the trial being held against him in his country because of alleged corruption actions during his mandate between 1982 and 1986. Jorge Blanco asked and was granted conditional release with bail. He also asked that the ban preventing him from leaving the country be lifted so that he could accompany his diabetic wife to a specialized hospital in Miami. Mrs Jorge Blanco was to undergo surgery on a ankle which she fractured when she fell from the stairs of the preventive jail where the former Dominican president was being held.

Grenada

Prime Minister To Respond to Election Demands

FL0908131789 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister Herbert Blaize is promising to respond by the end of the week to an opposition demand that he announce a date for an election. If that's not possible, he says that he'll meet with the executive to make sure that elections will be held before the end of the year. The prime minister agrees that the people of Grenada want the uncertainty of elections to be removed. The opposition wants the elections to be held no later than November 15.

Haiti

Avril Gift, Military Department Communique Noted

FL0908173489 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Report by Hinche correspondent Nicolas Fleuranvil]

[Text] At the general headquarters of the [name indistinct] barracks in Hinche, Lieutenant Colonel Ludovic Rene, commanding officer of the Military Department of the Center, on Saturday 5 August distributed sports equipment to the town's two most popular soccer teams: Jeunesse Football Club and [name of second team indistinct]. Before distributing the equipment, the commanding officer told the beneficiaries that the equipment was a gift that came directly from the president of the military government, General Prosper Avril, who, during the 1989 summer vacation, was thinking of sports-loving youths. This gesture by the president to the young people of Hinche has mobilized many soccer players around here in connection with sports. Many soccer players now say that they will not become discouraged about soccer, since they have seen that President Avril has thought about them.

Also, we have here a communique from the general headquarters of the Military Department of the Center dated 4 August 1989, which says: We inform the general public and everyone concerned, especially people who sell charcoal, that the Military Department of the Center is giving all buyers and sellers of charcoal 15 days, from 4 to 19 August, to sell their stocks of charcoal. As soon as this deadline expires, any (?area) driver found transporting charcoal from any area (?village) to Port-au-Prince will have the charcoal confiscated and will be punished by law.

Second, anyone caught in the act of cutting down a tree without the special authorization of a person authorized by the police to authorize the cutting, will be arrested and tried in court under the law.

Third, the commanding officer of the Military Department of the Center asks the public to cooperate so that this work will be successful, not just to protect the capital that our soil represents, (?but also) for the good of all the communities of the central plateau.

This communique bears the name of Col Ludovic Rene, commanding officer of the Military Department of the Center.

This is Nicolas (Fleuranvil), Radio Nationale, Hinche.

Economic Minister Departs for U.S. Visit

FL0908180689 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] An Information and Coordination Ministry press release announces that Economy and Finance Minister Leonce F. Thelusma left by plane for Washington, the capital of the United States, the day before yesterday, Monday 7 August. The minister is in Washington to sign, today, Wednesday 9 August, two credits to Haiti that total some $44 million.

On the one hand, a $20 million credit that will be signed today will allow CAMEP [Centrale Autonome Metropolitaine d'Eau Potable, the national waterworks for the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan area] to improve sanitary conditions for the most underprivileged classes of the metropolitan area, where it will be able to provide good drinking water for 400,000 area inhabitants.

On the other hand, a $24 million credit, which is also going to be signed today, 9 August, is going to permit Electricite d'Haiti [the national electric company] to improve its effectiveness and to increase its production capacity, so that it can meet the power needs of its (?economy), as well as provide proper electricity for the town of Hinche.

This money represents not only the resumption of U.S. aid to Haiti but also becomes a way to support the effort the military government is making, concerned as it is with improving the basic infrastructures in Haiti.

That was a press release from the Ministry of Information and Coordination.

Interior Minister, Peasants on Land Conflict

FL0908175789 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Report by correspondent Rodrigue F. Sejour]

[Excerpt] On Saturday 5 August, an Interior Ministry delegation headed by the minister of interior, Brigadier General Acedius Saint-Louis, visited Saint-Marc. In the presence of judicial, civilian, and military authorities, the interior minister met with the two sides in a land conflict involving a rural section of Marchand Dessalines, upper and lower (La Tapie). The minister heard the complaints of several peasants involved in this land conflict, which dates back to 1973 and is still (?causing a lot of trouble) today.

After listening to the peasants' complaints, the minister told them that land conflicts should not be settled with machetes, clubs, and weapons but through the courts, and that when the courts ordered them not to go on a piece of land, they must not go on the land. If someone has been on the land for 20 years, he cannot be put off the land, the minister said.

The minister also spoke of reaching an understanding and asked the judicial authorities to release some 10 people who had been imprisoned in connection with this (?case).

We remind listeners that 14 houses were burned to the ground recently in (La Tapie) in connection with this (?case), which has been before the courts since 1973 and to which a solution has to this day not been found.

Also, Radio Saint-Marc, the only radio station in the lower Artibonite Valley, celebrated its 16th anniversary on 5 August. [passage omitted]

New Immigration-Emigration Law Planned

FL0908144989 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Brigadier General Acedius Saint-Louis, the minister of interior and national defense; representatives of the different airlines in Haiti; and certain members of Mais Gate International Airport participated in a meeting together at the Villa Creole Hotel the day before yesterday. They discussed the problems encountered by certain immigration and emigration sectors.

The minister brought up the problem of Haitians who leave Haiti with false documents and who are sometimes stopped and sent back to Haiti by foreign authorities. According to others participating in this meeting, the problem occurs because certain immigration-emigration service employees are issuing false documents.

The pertinent authorities said that proper measures to solve this problem have been taken, and that several employees have already been fired. They are envisioning further measures. They are planning to come up with a different passport, with a different format, so as to thwart these people who are having people leave the country with false passports.

Thus, they are going to write a new law on immigration and emigration. The draft of this law is going to be submitted to the sectors affected for approval. [passage omitted]

Interior Ministry To Uphold Decree

FL0908181889 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The Ministry of Interior and National Defense informs everyone concerned that as of this date, (?the ministry) is going to apply, in all its forms, the dispositions of Article 15 of the decree of 26 December 1978 on immigration. This decree says that any foreigner who wants an immigrant visa, or a resident's visa, must make the request at the Haitian consulate in the jurisdiction where the foreigner is, or the one nearest to him.

Consequently, no request for an immigrant's visa, residence, or residency permit [viza imigran, rezidans, ou byen pemi sejou] made from Haitian territory will be followed up on.

This is a press release from the Ministry of Interior and National Defense.

Ministers Explains New Antipoverty Program

FL0908193089 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The big news in Les Cayes is last Friday's visit by a delegation headed by Social Affairs Minister Arnault Guerrier. The visit falls within the framework of the government's program of social rehabilitation. The delegation visited several towns in southern Haiti. Here are more details from our correspondent [(Guy Delva)] in Les Cayes.

[(Delva), in Creole] [Passage omitted] The delegation was made up of Social Affairs Minister Louis Arnault Guerrier; (Jean-Claude Michaud), who is the executive secretary of the minister's staff; Guy Michel Vincent, the coordinator of the social rehabilitation program; and Miss Mireille Sam, who is in charge of preschool education within the framework of the program of social rehabilitation, which is based on the strategy of a struggle against poverty.

Minister Guerrier visited Aquin, Cavaillon, Les Cayes, Port-Salut, Roche a Bateaux, Coteaux, Damissans, Port-a-Piment, Chardonniere, Les Anglais, and Tiburon, where he talked with the population of these towns—within the framework of the national program of struggle

against poverty, which is based first and foremost on the population's desire to participate—about their problems and about the need to organize so as to get out of the terrible state of poverty in which they are living. Minister Guerrier said that for more than 100 years now, the people in the towns have always made decisions for the peasants, without even inviting them to join in or informing them about what was going to be done in the peasant communities. This is one of the factors that has led us to the current state of affairs.

Minister Guerrier thinks that, after the failure of the system under which a small group of people thinks for the national majority, it is time for the contrary to occur—that is, the peasants, the people in the provinces and rural sections, should decide what they need, define their problems, and participate in the solutions to these problems along with the government authorities, who should provide these people with the means necessary to improve their situation, as well as the nation's.

Throughout the area, the population's concerns are centered mainly around the following urgent matters: food, schools, employment, roads, health, and information. Since these problems are linked, the struggle-against-poverty program includes the participation of, mainly, four other ministries, without excluding the other ministries. The ministries mainly involved are: Agriculture, Public Health, TPTC [Public Works, Transport, and Communications], and Education. These ministries (?are represented by) an interministerial committee coordinated by the Ministry of Social Affairs. This committee is for the purpose of intervening jointly in different domains in order to solve some of the problems with the population and thus satisfy the people's basic needs.

After Minister Guerrier explained the program, setting forth its main lines, it was the population's turn to express their complaints and suggest effective solutions. Based on these meetings, committees to struggle against poverty were formed. These committees are going to work with the program to carry out the solutions that they themselves will have sent in to the coordination office for this program to struggle against poverty at the Ministry of Social Affairs. This visit began at around 0900 on Friday 4 August and ended on Saturday 5 August.

[Announcer] In Les Cayes, still in connection with this visit, last Sunday close to 200 people took part in an information seminar on the population's situation and needs and on the solutions to be applied to certain problems.

Workshops were formed, and each area expressed its demands, explains (Guy Delva) further.

[(Delva), in Creole] [Passage omitted] The seminar provided an opportunity for Minister Guerrier to once again state the basic principle of participation by the communities themselves in their own change and in the definition of their priority needs. [passage omitted] Each workshop presented a general report for an area, and chose one person to be a part of the committee that is going to participate in the national conference that is to be held in Port-au-Prince in September. There were nine workshops. Thus, this committee will have nine members. Minister Guerrier talked to the members of this committee about the work they are to do within the framework of the struggle-against-poverty program. [passage omitted]

That is how the seminar went, and the population was warmly receptive to the struggle-against-poverty program. [passage omitted]

Trinidad and Tobago

Perez, Robinson Discuss Socioeconomic Issues

FL0708145089 Bridgetown CANA in English 1951 GMT 5 Aug 89

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Aug 5, CANA—Venezuela's President Carlos Andres Perez and Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson have had wide-ranging talks. Illegal drugs, culture, economic recovery, and the situation in Central America were among the topics discussed.

To follow are excerpts from the final communique issued Friday night by the two leaders.

Central America:

"With regard to the situation in Central America, they deplored the slow pace of the negotiations set in train by Esquipulas II, emphasising the need for the people of Central America to search for their own solutions. They declared their conviction that the problems which besiege the region stem not only or always from the lack of internal resources but from grave injustices inherent in the world economic order."

Panama:

"Both leaders voiced concern at the current delicate situation in Panama and re-affirmed their view that it is the people themselves who, in exercise of their sovereign right, must resolve their country's problems without foreign intervention.

"The leaders repeated their unqualified support for the promotion of democracy in Panama and their endorsement of the declaration recently adopted by the meeting of the consultative organ of the ministers of external relations of the OAS (Organisation of American States).

"They also expressed their satisfaction over the commencement of negotiations between Panama's political forces aimed at achieving a national agreement that would ensure the early and democratic transfer of power.

"They restated the need, by way of guaranteeing the sovereign rights of Panama over the canal, for faithful compliance with the commitments made in the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

"Prime Minister Robinson and President Perez again pledged the total support of their governments for the OAS as an instrument for ensuring and maintaining peace, dialogue, and solidarity among the nations of the American continent."

World economy:

"In discussing the world situation, the two leaders identified the grave international economic crisis as a major cause of the problems afflicting the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

"They agreed that, in order to avoid social tensions, structural adjustment measures necessary for the economic recovery of each country should be in place following broad national consensus. They stressed that the developed countries had an inescapable responsibility to share the burden of adjustment of the world economy.

"In this context, the two leaders identified as crippling burdens upon developing countries the continuing deterioration of the terms of trade, the policies of subsidisation of industrialised countries, and the virtual inaccessibility to the markets of said nations because of protectionist measures imposed by them.

"They affirmed that the problem of the external debt of developing countries requires effective international action based on the principle of shared responsibility between debtor and creditor countries, private banks, and international financial organizations leading to a substantial reduction of the debt and a just solution for all parties concerned.

Caricom:

"They likewise re-affirmed the importance their governments attach to the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Caribbean Community and Common Market (Caricom), and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), and to other initiatives for joint action and cooperation supported by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. In this respect, the leaders discussed the question of Venezuela's request for observer status in Caricom in the context of Venezuela's interest in establishing more direct ties of cooperation with Caricom.

Culture:

"The leaders agreed to review the terms of the existing cultural agreement between their two countries so as to make it an instrument more in keeping with present-day realities and which would both widen and deepen their excellent relations in the cultural field."

Drugs:

"On the subject of illicit trafficking in and abuse of drugs, the two leaders stressed the grave socio-economic consequences caused by this phenomenon. They emphasised the distortions generated in the economies of the countries of the region by the financial flows of this illegal trade.

"By way of joint effort against the scourge of drugs, they agreed to convene, as quickly as possible, the mixed commission provided for in the agreement on the prevention, control, and suppression of the illicit trafficking and use of narcotic drugs and psychotrophic substances."

Moreover, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago briefed the President of Venezuela on the proposals which he presented to the United Nations for the establishment of an international criminal court "to deal with the international criminal responsibility of individuals and entities engaged in the illegal trafficking in drugs across national frontiers and other international criminal activities."

El Salvador

D'Aubuisson on Various Means To Begin Dialogue

PA0908233289 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Report by Rossie Castillo]

[Text] National Assembly Deputy Major Roberto D'Aubuisson said today that the position adopted by El Salvador through President Alfredo Cristiani at the summit in Tela, Honduras, is positive because efforts are being made to achieve peace in Central America. However, he said, I think that the position of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] will actually be very critical now. The FMLN will not look good internationally if it rejects the dialogue.

Here is an excerpt of D'Aubuisson's statements, in which he also revealed that Costa Rican President Oscar Arias has offered to mediate the dialogue.

[Begin recording] [D'Aubuisson, in progress]... fallacies. This is not the first time they have claimed to want something and ended up doing something different. They are going to try to improve their international image and do not want to look like [word indistinct] before the little mangy-dogs who go about planting bombs here. They want to demonstrate perhaps that they always hold a hegemonic position here and will try to obtain a better negotiating position for their illegal forces, which are still going around [word indistinct] and killing people [words indistinct].

[Castillo] Nevertheless, Major, do you view this meeting as positive [word indistinct] with the FMLN—that is, the dialogue—now that something tangible has come out of the summit? Do you think peace can be achieved?

[D'Aubuisson] The objective of all Salvadorans—and in this regard we speak from the heart—is to achieve peace. If the FMLN cooperates, we welcome its cooperation. However, if it does not cooperate, there will be FMLN members who will demobilize, the same way so many people from the [word indistinct] are deserting. These people had to be given guarantees. We will see later if, as they say, they are truly working, or struggling, for the Salvadoran people [words indistinct] more positive actions.

However, we see everything as being well on the way to achieving peace in a short time. [end recording]

D'Aubuisson said that if the FMLN does not agree to the demobilization, the FMLN members will be solely responsible if peace is not achieved. Regarding the commission, he said it is already being organized and will begin a dialogue soon.

[Begin recording] [D'Aubuisson, in progress] ...a continuous dialogue to find solutions. That is why President Cristiani has instructed that it have no prior agenda but that it just begin. Their first step should be to sit down at a table to talk, to negotiate, to engage in dialogue. And this is to go on continuously until solutions are found and they achieve (?something tangible), which is the final solution.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[D'Aubuisson] Well, for example, Costa Rican President Arias has offered to act as mediator or intermediary. He said that if the commission goes to San Jose, he will take it upon himself to invite these gentlemen too and to give them whatever they need for this meeting to begin. After that, they themselves will develop the mechanisms. [end recording]

Maj D'Aubuisson said the commission will be sworn in and will maintain an ongoing dialogue with the FMLN representatives.

Commenting on legislative work, he said that today the Political Committee will meet to elect the president of the Commission on Corruption, which had been substantially neglected by Dr Jaime Ventura. The only candidate for the presidency of the Commission on Corruption is Deputy Roberto Angulo, vice president and acting president of the Legislative Assembly.

ARENA President Terms C.A. Summit 'Positive'

PA0908221989 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Armando Calderon Sol, president of ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] and the mayor of San Salvador, has said that the summit meeting in Honduras was very positive. There were no individual winners or losers—the real winners were the Salvadoran people who want peace, he said.

Regarding the demobilization of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], which has rejected the summit results, Calderon Sol said that the FMLN will be left with an even worse international image because this shows that it does not want peace in El Salvador. The dialogue is positive, and the commission will begin functioning soon, the high-ranking ARENA leader said.

[Begin Calderon Sol recording] I think the presidents' appeal, the renewed invitation to the FMLN to engage in dialogue and to open new doors to the [word indistinct] and the fact that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega himself has admitted that he supports the FMLN and is now urging them to join the democratic process in El Salvador, are achievements of the Tela meeting. The fact that members of the Salvadoran opposition refuse to admit it and that this or that gentleman refuse to see it because they have vested interests is another matter. However, if we, as Salvadorans, analyze this situation

objectively and consider the achievements that have been made, I think we should be very pleased and happy because El Salvador has won, democracy has won. We expect a positive reaction from the FMLN because the FMLN has the floor now.

The Central American presidents, and even Daniel Ortega, are telling the FMLN: Engage in dialogue and join the democratic process. If they refuse to do so, that is their decision. The international community observed the Central American summit, and the whole world, the democratic world, is now watching the FMLN.

I also demand that the FMLN join the country's democratic life and make it possible for us to sit down and engage in a harmonious dialogue. [end recording]

Calderon Sol said that the commission will be permanently established to try to hold a dialogue with the FMLN. All duly registered parties will participate, and they can make whatever contributions they wish to peace. The commission will be sworn in soon, and we hope El Salvador will have a dialogue and peace this year, Calderon Sol added.

MNR Leader Views Tela Agreements Positively

PA0908140389 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1215 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Guillermo Manuel Ungo, secretary general of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] and vice president of the Socialist International, has said that his party hopes that the agreements reached by the Central American presidents concerning the Salvadoran problem, agreements which called upon the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] and the government to resume the dialogue, will lead to serious negotiations that will end the 10-year armed conflict.

Ungo said that his party views positively the area president's decision ratifying that there is no symmetry between the FMLN guerrillas and the Nicaraguan contras based in Honduras.

He added that it is clear that the agreements signed in Tela, Honduras have various positive aspects that will require implementation, which will face many difficulties. However, they are a step forward in the process for Nicaragua's pacification and reconciliation, despite the U.S. Government's interventionist efforts to postpone indefinitely the demobilization of the contras until after the elections in Nicaragua.

Guatemala

Cerezo Praises Area Summit, Urges U.S. Support

PA1008035189 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0135 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Aug (REUTER)—Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo today described the results of the Central American summit meeting as a big victory for Central American diplomacy and urged the United States to support these results.

During an unscheduled news conference held at the local military airport on his return to this capital, Cerezo said: "I believe that from a historic point of view, this meeting has been very important." He added: "All those involved want to comply with the agreement."

On Monday, the presidents of Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica decided to disband within 4 months approximately 12,000 anti-Sandinist rebels settled in Honduran territory.

"We hope," Cerezo said, "the United States will read the agreements carefully." He added: "The opinion of the resistance, of the Sandinist government, of everybody, will be taken into account."

Cerezo, who is facing labor problems as well as divisions within his party, the Christian Democratic Party, has said his country played a key conciliatory role at the Tela summit meeting. The Guatemalan president said: "Everybody knows about the Guatemalan Government's decision to help reconcile the various parties and to find solutions that will benefit everybody."

Teachers Take Over OAS Offices, Seek Mediation

PA0908232589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2155 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—A group of teachers today took over the OAS offices in Guatemala City as part of the measures that were started on Tuesday, 8 August to put pressure on President Vinicio Cerezo's government to [illegible] to negotiate the end of a strike that began 10 weeks ago.

An OAS source confirmed to ACAN-EFE that a group of teachers "showed up" at the organization's offices in the southwestern sector of the capital.

The teachers are sitting in the OAS offices' hallways while their leaders talk with OAS representatives, it was reported.

On Tuesday, several groups of teachers momentarily took over the Costa Rican and Nicraguan Embassies in Guatemala City and asked the ambassadors to mediate so that President Vinicio Cerezo will heed their demands. Nevertheless, the ambassadors explained that they cannot mediate in other countries' internal conflicts.

The teachers demand that the government abolish the agreements to annul some positions and the nonpayment of the July salary to teachers who were on strike.

Occupation Ends Without Incident

PA1008033389 Paris AFP in Spanish 0221 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Aug (AFP)—OAS sources have reported that a group of Guatemalan teachers who peacefully occupied the local OAS headquarters in this capital for 4 hours this evening have left the building.

One of the teachers who occupied the building located on Espana Square, on the capital's south side, has said that "the occupation was peaceful and there was no incident."

The teachers gave the OAS representative in Guatemala, Luis Alberto Sepulveda, a document stating their position on the strike they have maintained for the past 10 weeks to demand for salary increases.

In the document, the strikers report on "repressive actions," especially on dismissals, that the government has carried out against them. An OAS employee said that the teachers used "no violence" and left after talking with OAS representatives.

This past Tuesday, striking teachers peacefully occupied the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan Embassies in a search for solidarity with their cause.

Teachers leader Jose Luis Leiva today spoke to the media to defend these actions by the teachers and cautioned that the teachers will make sure their rights are respected "at any cost, and we will maintain the struggle even if blood must be spilled." "We will not permit the use of police violence. If there is police violence again, we will respond in kind," Leiva said, alluding to actions by anti-riot police who this Tuesday used tear gas to disperse teachers who had seized two installations in the Puerto Barrios and Antigua areas of this capital.

In Antigua, the police arrested 60 strikers and charged them with bomb attacks in which 12 security agents were wounded.

Honduras

Reportage on Reactions to Tela Conference, Accord

Congress President Fears Impasse

PA0908192989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1520 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Honduran Congress President Carlos Montoya believes that the Nicaraguan contra demobilization agreed upon by the Central American presidents will reach an impasse. The area governments agreed on 7 August in Tela, on the Honduran Atlantic coast, to the voluntary demobilization, repatriation and relocation in third countries of some 13,000 contras based in Honduras and their relatives, estimated at 50,000 persons.

Montoya believes that the agreement specifies timeframes which "are not too drastic, but which will cause contradictions to emerge in view of the political interests involved." The Honduran Congressman argued that "the contras maintain the position of withdrawing their troops according to the electoral process in Nicaragua scheduled for this coming February, whereas the Tela terms are for December. Therefore, I think we will experience a 90-day impasse," he noted.

He said that the agreements have a direct effect on the U.S. Congress and Senate and call for respect of the presidential decisons, because they create hope for Central America's reconciliation.

"The agreements were adopted by the area governments, although the United States wanted the deadlines to be after the Nicaraguan elections. Consequently, I do not think that the terms will be fulfilled," he stated.

Montoya criticized the fact that "Nicaragua did not make greater commitments to Honduras and and its promise to withdraw its lawsuit against this country only when the last contra leaves Honduran territory."

Nicaragua filed a lawsuit before the International Court of Justice on 28 July 1986 accusing Honduras of lending its territory for bases that permit the presence of the anti-Sandinist rebels in Honduran territory.

Tegucigalpa Analyzes Results

PA1008040689 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 8 Aug 89

["Current Topics" segment]

[Text] Good day, friends. The Central American presidents who presided over the closing ceremony of the 5th Central American Presidential Summit did not show any satisfaction, rather their faces were very serious and expressed serenity. However, for many observers, [Nicaraguan President] Commander Daniel Ortega was the great winner at Tela, Honduras [where the Central American Presidential summit was held]. By the end of the summit, Nicaragua had a commitment for the Nicaraguan Resistance forces—who struggle against the Sandinist administration—to be demobilized. The regional presidents also agreed on the deadlines for the commitments they had made at the summit. The Managua Government attained what they had been asking for during this summit in Honduras. The Sandinists have, thus, resolved their political domestic problem, as they have done away with the hindrance of the counterrevolution supported by the United States for the past few years. The agreement's Annex 1, signed by the five Central American presidents, states that the rebels will be disbanded 90 days after 7 September. On that date the International Support and Verificaton Commission [CIAV] will have ended its work scheduled to last 30 days, starting today.

Analyzing the documents that form the so-called Tela Statement, we gather that Nicaragua was favored with the agreements because the demobilization, voluntary repatriation, or relocation [desmobilization, repatriacion voluntaria o reubicacion] of the anti-Sandinist units takes away the serious problem of the armed rebels and gives them the option of returning to the country if they want, or going to other countries if they do not want to return to their fatherland. The plan that was proposed and accepted at the summit also included a request for other countries and organizations to cooperate in the demobilization of the contras. The call was for both financial and material resources that will allow Nicaraguans to be relocated in their territory, once the rebel group's actions have been controlled.

Commander Daniel Ortega was asked a question when the summit closure ceremony was over and he answered that he hoped the Bush administration would support the agreement, adding that the funds currently being used as humanitarian aid for the contras should now be assigned to help in their demobilization. This idea is that a lot of money could be channeled for that purpose, and Nicaragua will obtain additional advantages.

Let us now see the contrast of the agreements signed yesterday in the port of Tela. El Salvador sought help for the demobilization of guerrilla forces, but all that was achieved was an invitation to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] to discuss a cease-fire with Cristiani's administration.

Honduras requested at the summit that Nicaragua withdraw the lawsuit filed at the International Court of Justice [ICJ] at The Hague, but all it could obtain was a bilateral agreement endorsed by Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica, in which the Sandinist government vows to ask the ICJ for an extension of the date established for the presentation of the document on the merits of the suit, and to desist from the suit on a date that is precisely within the deadline established for the Nicaraguan contras' demobilization.

Our country achieved only that, while Nicaragua will receive funds for the repatriation of its rebel countrymen and the refugees who seek the benefits of this plan. Meanwhile, our displaced countrymen will be left without protection and will return empty-handed to land they abandoned out of fear. They will begin anew, without aid, to rebuild the few things they had. We still do not know what will be done with the Nicaraguans who do not want to return to their country or go to other nations that will offer their hospitality.

Let us not forget that a situation has arisen among the refugees and fighters, and it involves our nation. Many children have been born here and they have the right to claim Honduran nationality. Also, Hondurans have married Nicaraguans, and they have born Honduran children. This entire situation causes concern, because peace in the region must be attained as a whole. It cannot be the result of a state's guarantee to avoid a problem.

We think Honduras played an important role because it stated its willingness to sign the Tela Agreements in good faith so that the peace-seeking process in the area does not stop. President Azcona interpreted the Honduran people's will and sincerely made a contribution toward the achievement of peace in the region by withdrawing reservations concerning the UN resolution. Despite all the disadvantages, Honduras has once again proven that it wants Central America to embark on the route toward peace and progress.

However, peace in Central America is not the dismantling of the contras, and it is not the war in El Salvador, either. It is not the return of terrorism in Guatemala, and it is not the economic situation that prevails in all the Central American nations. It is viewing all the problems as a whole, to prevent these situations from threatening the stability and peace in the entire Central American region.

The fifth Central American summit was, for some observers, the most specific of all the meetings at the highest level; but others believe that not all is settled. Central America's future is still unclear and many issues still lie ahead. These can only be overcome by all the parties' good faith—which remains in doubt.

Agreements 'Difficult' To Fulfill

PA0908200389 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Station editorial: "A Demobilization, Relocation, and Repatriation Process the Contra Movement Is Not Obliged To Comply With"]

[Text] The so-much commented upon fifth Central American summit ended on 7 August at the Honduran Atlantic port of Tela after almost 3 days of long discussions filled with confusion.

One of the documents approved by the presidents includes an agreement to create the International Commission for Support and Verification, which will be identified as CIAV. CIAV will have UN and OAS support. CIAV will be in charge of verifying the relocation of the anti-Sandinist contras.

At the summit, the presidents stressed that all the summit resolutions were adopted by consensus including the one that states that within a 30-day period begining on 7 August the necessary steps for the consolidation of CIAV will be made. The documents approved also established that within a 90-day period beginning on the day of the creation of CIAV, the process of voluntary

demobilization, relocation, and repatriation [desmovilizacion, reubicacion y repatriacion voluntaria] of the Nicaraguan contras will begin.

That was precisely the U.S. Government's thesis. That thesis was based on what was established by the Central American peace agreements. In other words, the area presidents did not agree on any coercive measure that would commit the Nicaraguan contra movement to agree on its demobilization from Honduran territory, because the summit documents themselves state that the demobilization, relocation, and repatriation will be voluntary. Thus, if we take into account the statements made by known contra leaders such as Adolfo Calero that the contra movement will not comply with the summit agreement, we can conclude that the contra issue will continue to be a problem for a long time and that it will hinder the attainment of peace in Central America.

The paper agreements—as somebody ironically described them—that the Central American presidents reached also include the immediate and effective end of hostilities in El Salvador after begging the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, to peacefully join Salvadoran economic and social life. As in the case of the contras, the Salvadoran guerrilla movement is not obliged to abide by the fifth Central American summit agreements.

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, however, announced on 7 August that the Salvadoran rebel movement had agreed to his request to hold a dialogue leading to the unity of the Salvadoran society. At the beginning of his mandate, the guerrilla movement had requested the same thing of President Cristiani, but he rejected the request on that occasion.

In brief, the Nicaraguan contra movement is not obliged to abide by the so-called agreements of the fifth Central American summit, because according to what they clearly said the contras want to continue the armed struggle. As for the FMLN guerrillas, we will have to wait for the results of the dialogue they will hold with President Cristiani.

The only thing that is certain here is that our government spent the considerable amount of $600,000 for the fifth Central American summit in Tela. Those funds could have very well been invested in something beneficial for the country, because—and you should take our words seriously—it would be extremely difficult for the Tela summit agreements—as they stand now—to lead to the longed-for peace within the established periods of time. Time will prove us right.

Journalists, Others Barred From Contra Camps

PA0908190589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1735 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Permits to visit contra camps in eastern Honduras for journalists and unauthorized personnel were suspended yesterday afternoon, Colonel Abram Reyes Gomez has said.

Reyes, deputy public relations director of the Armed Forces, said that "the permits issued by his office were suspended, and unauthorized visits to the contra camps were restricted on higher orders."

Reyes refrained from making further comments regarding the order and said he did not know if it has any relation to the demobilization of the contras approved by the Central American presidents on 7 August at the end of a summit in Tela, on the Honduran Caribbean coast.

To visit the contra camps, Honduran and foreign journalists are required to obtain a written safe-conduct from the Armed Forces, which includes the dates they will be visiting the area bordering Nicaragua.

Once they arrived in the border region, they have to clear numerous Honduran Army and contra checkpoints before entering the camps.

There are some 13,000 contras stationed in Honduras and some 50,000 relatives who receive U.S. humanitarian aid.

Nicaragua

Factions Begin Work on, React to Tela Accords

Government To Start CIAV

PA0908132789 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1205 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Nicaragua has already begun working on the creation of the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission [CIAV] by sending documents to the United Nations and the OAS.

Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco explains the steps that Nicaragua must take to comply with the agreements reached by the Central American presidents in Tela, Honduras.

[Begin recording] [Tinoco] Since the contra demobilization plan does not include the creation of the CIAV, we will send the relevant documents to the United Nations and the OAS so they can organize the CIAV. I believe that once the CIAV has been created and the international organization in charge of providing support has been appointed, they will have to go to the field, because, as the agreement states, they will have to go to the camps and check out the situation.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]...Nicaraguan?
[Tinoco] No, if they believe it is necessary for a Nicaraguan official to explain the guarantees to the contras as well as their political rights, which are the rights of all Nicaraguans, we can do it. This will be part of the repatriation process. [end recording]

As for the financing of the demobilization of the contras, Deputy Foreign Minister Tinoco said it must be financed by the United States, which has kept the war alive.

[Begin Tinoco recording] I believe the financial support should also be sought by the CIAV because the five Central American governments have made a request to the OAS. The United Nations has some funds, but when it needs to conduct a special operation, it seeks international cooperation. The OAS does the same. I believe the Central American governments are not in the best position to provide the financing. One of the countries that should finance this operation is the United States, because it has a responsibility in this war. Besides, the U.S. law that was passed this year to keep the contras in their Honduran camps states the money that was approved may be used for repatriation purposes. Therefore, the repatriation may be financed by the United States. In my opinion the United States should cooperate in a positive and constructive manner. [end recording]

Opposition Voices Support

PA0908161589 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1237 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Leaders from the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua [PCDN] and the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC] have voiced their support for the agreements signed by the Central American presidents.

Dr Eduardo Molina, a leader of the opposition PCDN and a probable presidential candidate, said there are no reasons why the counterrevolutionary groups in Honduras should not give up their weapons and return to the country.

[Begin recording] In order for the members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] to lay down weapons, there must be a process of negotiations. The Tela Agreements specify that the International Commission of Verification and Follow-up and the Nicaraguan Government will establish within 90 days the necessary mechanisms that will make it possible for the armed rebels to return to the country or go to other countries. It all depends on the negotiating capabilities of the Nicaraguan Government and the negotiating willingness of the RN members.

All of this also depends on the development of the electoral process in Nicaragua, and how the government will comply with the agreements it signed with the political parties. It also depends on how the government improves the democratic channels in Nicaragua so that these rebel groups will have no reasons for not returning to the country. One of the main reasons why they left and chose to take up arms is because they considered that the democratic channels in Nicaragua were very narrow and conditions were not proper for civic life. Right now the democratic channels are widening, and I believe there is no reason for a war or any military line of action. Those persons must lay down their weapons soon and join the opposition political parties in Nicaragua or form new political parties. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Luis Humberto Guzman, a leader of the opposition PPSC, said that the U.S. Government must respect the agreements signed by the Central American presidents and proceed to end the war of aggression and the commercial embargo against our country.

[Begin recording] I believe the Americans, that is, the Bush administration, cannot and should not conduct actions that drastically affect the Nicaraguan people. An example of this is the economic embargo that practically all Nicaraguans demand the U.S. Government lift. Everyone—ranging from the newspaper LA PRENSA, the archbishop of Managua, the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, the opposition parties, and up to the Sandinist government—practically the entire Nicaraguan society has demanded that the Bush administration lift the embargo. I feel the Bush administration cannot be so arrogant as to think that the Americans are the ones who [words indistinct] the Nicaraguan interests, and go against the opinion of the Nicaraguan citizens themselves.

Likewise, I think that actions must now follow the agreements reached by the citizens at the Olof Palme Conventions Center [where the political parties recently held a national dialogue with the Sandinist government] and the Central American presidents. The political process must be endorsed and no one must have any excuse to think that this process will be sabotaged. I think this is not only a civilized action, but an action respectful of the domestic affairs of Nicaragua. In addition, this is the best thing that can be done in favor of democracy in Nicaragua. [end recording]

Rebels Refuse To Surrender Weapons

PA0908223489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2120 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Washington D.C., 9 Aug (EFE)—Bosco Matamoros, a spokesman for the Nicaraguan contras, said today that the rebels will continue struggling for the democratization of their country but will not surrender their weapons in spite of the agreement reached this weekend by the five Central American presidents.

Matamoros noted that the current crisis of the Nicaraguan armed movement "is a product of its alliance with the United States." Matamoros said the United States lacks historic and political vision in its relations with the anti-Sandinists.

The spokesman said that the contras will implement a new strategy that includes moving away from the United States. He noted that the rebels "have the political will to continue the direct dialogue initiated by the Managua regime in the search for an agreement that should satisfy the Nicaraguan people's hunger for democracy."

Matamoros said that the U.S. policy for the anti-Sandinist rebels is a result of internal U.S. struggles and not of the real situation in Nicaragua.

"The fact is that there has been no U.S. political support for the contras since economic backing does not mean political support," Matamoros said. He noted that in 8 years of struggle, the United States has given the contras only $200 million. The contra spokesman reported that the new contra strategy will take into account the new international situation as well as the rebels' ability to maintain their political and military integrity in Nicaraguan territory through mobilizations.

Matamoros said: The contras were not created by any country. The contras are the product of the political situation in Nicaragua.

According to Matamoros, many countries and international groups have been interested in helping the contras "since the days before the United States stopped its backing."

RN Says No Demobilization

PA1008010989 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2323 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Statement by Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) Director Adolfo Calero Portocarrero to Costa Rican radio station on 9 August—recorded]

[Text] The Honduran newspaper LA PRENSA yesterday published an editorial that said that the Central American presidents will be sorry they signed the agreements. Well, we are now faced with an agreement that Daniel Ortega violated as soon as he arrived in Nicaragua. The first thing he said was that the RN was dead. He can only think about the death of his adversaries, the elimination of obstacles to achieve his goals—which are clearly the establishment and consolidation of a Communist regime in Nicaragua and its subsequent extension to other Central American countries.

According to the agreement signed in Tela, Ortega has pledged to carry out democratization and, above all, a reconciliation. What kind of reconciliation can there be when the people who are supposed to implement this can only think about the death of other Nicaraguan people, and say that a death sentence has been issued against them—a civilian death in any case, because we are not allowed free participation in Nicaragua's political, economic, and social life.

However, Ortega is wrong if he thinks we will stop fighting for Nicaragua's liberation. The fighters have three alternatives... [changes thought] the agreement establishes the right to freely exert one's will. Consequently, the fighters have three alternatives: Return to Nicaragua by accepting an amnesty, the so-called Sandinist amnesty, and going to jail, meaning to join the 6,000 prisoners who are in the Nicaraguan, better yet, Sandinist jails; and submit themselves to the regime, risking persecution and death—because many have been killed. That is one alternative.

The second alternative is to become refugees and simply roam about Central America, North America, and the world—there are thousands of Nicaraguans in Australia, which is far away from Nicaragua. That is the second alternative.

The third alternative is to return to Nicaragua with our weapons, penetrate the enclaves that were agreed upon with the Sandinists in Sapoa, and remain there until democratization is a reality—this was the basis of the Sapoa Agreements. We would join the Nicaraguan activities once democracy becomes a reality.

This last alternative would actually mean fulfilling the Sapoa Agreements. We would return to Nicaragua and remain alert so that the cease-fire prevails. This is the alternative that attracts nearly all...[changes thought] I cannot say all because there is one or two who could not return given their physical condition. However, that is the best alternative.

H. Ortega Confirms Presidential Plane Sold

PA0908165089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0308 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Text] Manauga, 7 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Humberto Ortega, Nicaraguan Defense Minister and Commander of the Armed Forces, today confirmed that the Sandinist Government has sold the presidential plane "19 July."

The opposition paper LA PRENSA reported today that President Daniel Ortega, in view of the economic crisis the country is facing, had sold the 'BAC 125' jet, together with another airplane, for an unspecified sum.

The presidential plane was called 'NICARAO' when it was used by Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle, overthrown by the Sandinists in July 1979.

According to LA PRENSA, the plane, famous throughout Nicaragua, was sold by the government to a furniture manufacturer whose last name is Moran, and to Ron Walker, former mayor of Melbourne, Australia.r

General Ortega confirmed the newspaper report to ACAN-EFE.

The top Sandinist military leader said that "those planes had been up for sale for a long time. They were sold without any problem, just as any country can sell anything.

EPS Reports 8 Contras Killed 4-7 August

PA1008040289 Paris AFP in Spanish 0218 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Managua, 9 Aug (AFP)—The Sandinist People's Army (EPS) reported today that eight contras were killed during attacks on military patrols in several areas of the country between 4 and 7 August.

In a news bulletin distributed on 9 August, the EPS Public Relations Office added that four soldiers and one civilian were wounded during these attacks.

According to the official report, the ambushes took place on the Atlantic coast and in the central departments of Matagalpa and Jinotega in violation of the cease-fire decreed by the government since March 1988.

Heng Samrin Special Envoy Visits

BK1008080489 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] A delegation led by Comrade Long Visalo, deputy foreign minister and special envoy of Chairman Comrade Heng Samrin, visited Nicaragua 24-26 July 1989.

Our delegation held talks with Comrade Victor Hugo Tinoco, deputy foreign minister, at the Nicaragua Foreign Ministry on the afternoon of 24 July. The two sides briefed each another on developments in their own countries' situation, in particular the process of finding political settlements to the conflicts in Cambodia and Nicaragua. They supported each other's efforts to settle problems in Southeast Asia and Central America in order to restore peace, security, and stability according to the aspirations of the Cambodian and Nicaraguan peoples, and to promote cooperation according to the international trend of solving conflicts.

During the delegation's stay in Managua, Comrade Long Visalo held a press conference organized by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry. He also visited the foreign relations office of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and held discussions with Comrade Jose Pasos, deputy chairman of the front foreign relations office.

The delegation ended its visit to Nicaragua with success, then continued its trip to San Jose for a visit to Costa Rica on 26 July 1989.

Panama

Radio Station Airs Bush-Endara Phone Call

PA1008032689 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1316 GMT 9 Aug 89

["Liberation Trails" discussion program hosted by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua and Zelideth Rosales, with Democratic Revolutionary Party Legislator Rigoberto Paredes—live]

[Excerpts] [Aizpurua] Rigoberto, we have a recording of the Bush-Endara telephone conversation, the telephone coup [telefonazo], as I call it. We want to play this before you go on the air, Rigoberto, so that you can comment on two things: Yesterday's incidents [at Arraijan] and this recording taken from the "News Parameters" program [originally aired over Panama City Radio Ritmo]. We will first broadcast the "News Parameters" recording.

[Begin recording] [Mario Rognoni (former commerce and industries minister and Radio Ritmo commentator)] An article written yesterday [8 August] by Juan Carlos Duque, chief editor of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, said: Bush and Endara have talked over the telephone. A Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC] spokesman said yesterday afternoon that former ADOC presidential candidate Guillermo Endara had talked over the telephone with U.S. President George Bush. The telephone conversation lasted 18 minutes and touched on the OAS efforts to find a solution to the Panamanian political problem. The ADOC spokesman described the conversation as positive. It was reported that Bush said he is closely following the OAS discussions and that he was pleased with the respectful manner in which the dialogue is being held. He noted that neither the U.S. Government nor he personally wants to affect either the Panamanian people or the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], and that with regard to the FDP as an institution, he has for it all the respect it merits. He added that he supports the Panamanian people in their struggle for liberation.

[Ruben Dario Murgas (Radio Ritmo commentator)] Bush did not say that at all, and you will hear it later.

[Rognoni] [Reading from LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA article] ADOC said that Bush told Endara he was pleased with the civic and democratic manner in which he and his running mates of the 7 May elections have continued in their struggle for democratization and with the democratic manner in which they want to resolve the Panamanian political problem by proposing a plebiscite. According to the ADOC spokesman, Bush referred to Endara as the president-elect.

[Rognoni] Bush did not mention the part about the plebiscite. We must tell you that the conversation did not last 18 minutes either. I understand, Ruben, that 4 minutes seem like 20 minutes to Endara. After all, time for him is worth [words indistinct]

[Murgas] No, maybe that was time from the moment he placed the call. You know that it must be very difficult to speak with a U.S. President. It is difficult to speak to even a minister here. When I used to call you, Mario, when you were a minister, by the time I finally got through to you, 20 minutes had gone by.

[Rognoni] What I mean to say is that since the conversation actually lasted only 4 minutes, Endara must have waited 14 minutes from the moment they told him: One moment, the president will speak to you. They kept him waiting 14 minutes.

[Murgas] For the benefit of our listeners, and so that the people will draw their own conclusions, we will play the recording. Those who speak English will hear the recording, and later Mario will give you a brief translation. We repeat, there is no Perry Mason, Superman, or Batman here; there was nothing heroic about obtaining this. It was simply leaked, because those who are the sources [words indistinct]. Therefore, as we offer our listeners of "News Parameters," for those who have doubts, we will now play the recording of the conversation between President George Bush and Guillermo Endara Galimany.

[Begin recording of the "Bush-Endara telephone conversation" in English] [Bush] Hello!

[Endara] Mr President?

[Bush] Mr President-elect, how are you doing?

[Endara] Very well, so glad to hear from you.

[Bush] Well, I just wanted to call and say that...you know, so much has happened in Panama and in the OAS...but as far as we're concerned, one element remains constant, and that is that you and your two vice presidents continue to have the unyielding support and admiration of the people.

[Endara] Thank you very much, President Bush.

[Bush] I'm talking about the people here, here in the United States, and I hope that it's true there in Panama.

[Endara] It certainly is, it certainly is.

[Bush] We're committed to a democratic transition. We're...I will stand by you and the democratic opposition until somehow this crisis is resolved.

[Endara] That's great.

[Bush] And we, you know, we want to see...I hope the OAS can result in the will of the people being adhered to...but I just really wanted to see your view on it. The commission makes it clear that Noriega must go if the crisis is to be solved, and then if the whole reconstruction of your country is to begin...but...the (?important thing) to make clear is that even many of his own supporters want him out. But I really just haven't talked to him in a long time.

[Endara] Thank you very much, Mr President.

[Bush] I wanted to see what you thought about it.

[Endara] We still think that the main point we ought to get in this struggle is Mr Noriega's ouster from the Defense Forces. That's our main point. As for the democratic solution, we still think that the (?sense) of 7 May elections is valid, and people would like to see it accomplished what they, they, they promised...they promised the people to accomplish. We are willing, and we proposed last Friday to the government under the OAS dialogue that...we proposed that this issue be resolved by a plebiscite or referendum.

[Bush] Right.

[Endara] Of course, the government feels they are very weak in people's support, and they are thinking of ways not to go to this plebiscite. Another thing we are planning to do is...we are probably, all three, my two vice presidents and I, will probably go to Washington 23 August when the meeting of the OAS will reconvene.

[Bush] Ah, ha.

[Endara] And...

[Bush] Do you think they will let you present your case there?

[Endara] They probably will not allow us a formal presentation, but it will allow us to talk informally to all the ministers of foreign relations of all the countries.

[Bush] Ah, ha. Unfortunately, I'm going to be out of town, but that will be very interesting. I hope it makes some headway. But, you know...didn't, didn't the OAS call for Noriega being out by September first?

[Endara] That is, that was, they did...they asked for a transfer of power by September first. They did not mention exactly the ouster of Noriega. They mentioned a transfer of power. Of course, the way we interpret transfer of power is that there could not possibly be a transfer of power without Noriega leaving, because he is the actual power here in Panama.

[Bush] Yeah. Well, our understanding and (?going along with it) was, was that you know.. that Noriega...you know, part of it is that Noriega goes out. Of course, whether he'll actually go or not, that's something else. That is part of the U.S. position. But we're willing to back the OAS view, but it's predicated on Noriega getting out on the first. I don't think there's much chance of it, do you?

[Endara] I, I think...you know...we should try to do it before September first, but even if we don't get it, we should continue this (?dialogue). I think one of the main objectives of our going to the OAS meeting is precisely that the OAS recognize the ouster of Noriega as the main ingredient in the transfer of power. They should mention it explicitly, not implicitly like they did last time.

[Bush] Yeah, I see. Well, listen, how's your health? All right?

[Endara] Very well, and your health and Mrs Bush's health?

[Bush] We're fine. She's on vacation and I'm going to leave about the next week for, going up to Maine for a little, little rest.

[Endara] Very good.

[Bush] These are trying times. We have not only your problems that worry us, and...where we'd like to be helpful...but also...

[Endara, interrupting] Middle East.

[Bush] ...What's happening in the Middle East, and all of that.

[Endara] We certainly are...back your views on this very, very sorrowful matter.

[Bush] Yeah, it is sorrow...it's a good way to put it, sorrowful matter, it really is. But we'll keep trying and see what we can do. But in any event, I wanted to pass my respects to you and if you please, tell your two vice presidents...

[Endara, interrupting] Yes.

[Bush]...the facts, and if you get a few thoughts, please don't hesitate to pass them along.

[Endara] Yes. They are right now in Venezuela visiting President Carlos Andres Perez.

[Bush] Ah, good, well maybe they'll get some...he's done pretty good. I hope he will stay with us on it.

[Endara] Very good. Thank you very much, Mr President.

[Bush] Thank you, sir.

[Endara] Very well. Thank you. Good night. [end of "Bush-Endara telephone conversation" recording]

[Murgas] Okay Mario, you will now translate the conversation.

[Rognoni] Yes, for the benefit of those who do not speak English. You understood the conversation, did you not?

[Murgas] No, I only understood when he said Ah, ha! [laughter] That was the only thing I understood, in addition to a Yeah! [laughter] What does that yeah mean in the United States? Does that mean yes?

[Rognoni] Yes.

[Murgas] But...

[Rognoni] But it is used in Texas, more than anywhere else. It is Southern English. It is used very much when they are chasing horses.

[Murgas] You mean like the cowboys?

[Rognoni] Yes, that is when it is used.

[Murgas] Okay Mario, give us the translation.

[Rognoni] We should keep on saying: Ah, ha! [laughter]

[Murgas] You remember the [word indistinct] going up Cerro Campana? It would tell you: Ah, ha! When one practically could not go up the hill. Remember how the motor would do? [laughter]

First of all, out of respect for our listeners who do not speak English, including myself, let us have Mario Rognoni translate the conversation. Yes, in fact, those who speak English understand this better, because they understand the connotation of certain words. It is very difficult to translate. However, as a service for the thousands of listeners who do not speak English, Mario Rognoni will give you a translation he has prepared for us.

[Rognoni] This is not a complete translation, because some things are not too important. Bush begins by pointing out they are interested in continuing to support Endara and the opposition, basically in their efforts, he says, toward democratization.

Bush also added that Endara and the opposition have the support and admiration of the U.S. people. This was followed by Bush's first question. He asked Endara whether the Panamanian people are still supporting him. Sounds as though Bush is beginning to have his doubts and wants to hear what Endara has to say about the people's support for the opposition.

[Murgas] The funny thing is that Bush initiated the call, but all he did was ask questions. All Endara did was inform Bush.

[Rognoni] The call was not made [words indistinct] questions.

[Murgas] It seems Endara was not prepared for the call. It has happened to me in the past. I was interviewed once when I was not prepared. Not everyone is prepared to receive a call from the President of the United States, much less a Panamanian.

[Rognoni] The call is also of importance because it casts some doubts concerning the President's trust in his intelligence service and the information he is receiving from Ambassador [Arthur] Davis. This was a direct call to Endara...

[Murgas interrupts] To confirm information.

[Rognoni] To confirm information.

[Murgas] Bush asked Endara three key questions. Let us continue with the translation.

[Rognoni] Bush did reaffirm his support and expressed his hopes that there will be a transition toward democracy. Bush reaffirmed that he will continue to support Endara and the opposition until the Panamanian crisis is resolved. However, Bush clearly said that he hopes the OAS will solve the problem and that the the solution of the OAS will be according to the wishes of the Panamanian people. Up to that point Bush was being diplomatic; however, he did say that he is waiting for the OAS solution. This means that the United States supports the OAS. Later in his conversation, Bush stated this more emphatically. He does question the Panamanian people's support for Endara. Endara said that he still has this support; that he has not lost the people's support.

Bush asked Endara for his views about the OAS, clearly stating that Gen Noriega must leave. As far as I am concerned, this was the most important part of the whole conversation. Bush put it like a question. He clearly said that the OAS had set a date for Gen Noriega to leave and that date is 1 September. I feel that Endara answered the question truthfully, however, he did not say what he has been saying...

[Murgas interrupts] He tells Bush the truth...

[Rognoni] He tells Bush the truth, but does not tell the Panamanian people the truth. Endara told Bush that the OAS statement is not clear. The OAS does not mention Noriega's leaving. The OAS only mentions the transfer of power on 1 September. However Endara then adds that the opposition interprets the transfer of power as Noriega leaving, because Noriega represents the real power. However, this is his way of justifying the fact that the opposition's main goal is Noriega's withdrawal.

Ruben, in Endara's first answer to Bush's question, he said that the opposition's main point [preceding two words in English]—and I wish to stress this because here lies the real truth—is Noriega's leaving. Therefore, democratization, validity of the elections, and Endara assuming power, are not the opposition's main points. Their main point is Noriega's withdrawal.

[Murgas] That is also the United States' main point.

[Rognoni] Exactly. Endara is doing this to further play up to Bush and get his support. We believe that by doing this, Endara is removing himself from the wishes of the people. What the people really want is for the crisis to be solved; the people want to perfect democracy in the country.

[Murgas] I believe there is some confusion concerning dates.

[Rognoni] No, the main confusion lies within the key question asked during the conversation; that is, whether it has clearly been established by the OAS that Noriega must leave by 1 September. Endara emphatically answered no. No, that is not clear because the OAS did not mention this explicitly; the OAS only talked about the transfer of power. However, I wish to stress that Endara did give this his own interpretation. He said that the opposition interprets transfer of power as Noriega's leaving, because they consider him the real power. This is where we drop off the OAS issue.

[Recording of "News Parameters" program ends and "Liberation Trails" program continues] [Aizprua] Well dear listeners, I believe that this has helped the Panamanian people become aware of how information is being manipulated even within the country. We believe that Cuchungo [Guillermo] Endara and the colonialist ADOC have again shamefully lied to the people. I have my own interpretation of the telephone call.

When Bush asked Endara whether the OAS declaration clearly stated that Noriega must leave by 1 September, Endara said no. What Bush told Endara was: We support what the OAS is doing in Panama and we are telling you so. However, deep down what he was saying was: At this moment, it is not really important that Noriega leave. I have my own ideas about Bush's real intentions and the directions he gave Endara, not during the telephone conversation, because what Bush is really interested in is finding out is how much support the opposition has in light of the aggression. He has already received a report on the great Torrijist and patriotic mobilization to Torrijos' mausoleum. The U.S. Southern Command calculated that approximately 120,000 people—I did not dare calculate that many, Zelideth—participated in the event. This was not a national mobilization. Some people came from the interior, but not that many, because this was not a national mobilization. They are worried because they do not really know what is going on, therefore, Bush has asked Endara about the people's feelings concerning the opposition's stance in light of the dialogue. The opposition continues to be stubborn; their position has not changed; their words remain the same. However, we will see a change tomorrow when the talks resume. The opposition is mocking the dialogue; they are marking time and in the end they will present an ultimatum and walk out the back door saying that the Executive Branch, Gen Noriega, and COLINA have not accepted any type of rapprochement. We are warning about that as of now and we wrote an article about that today. The article is entitled: The Fox in the Chicken Coop.

We do not have much time right now, we are waiting for Legislator Rigoberto Paredes' call. However, since we still have a few minutes, I am going to ask you, Zelideth, to read the article I wrote in today's "Political Forum" in CRITICA. [passage omitted]

[Aizprua] On the phone we have Legislator Rigoberto Paredes who will express his opinions on this "Liberation Trails" program.

[Paredes] Thank you Baltazar. Greetings to all of you. I wish to be brief because your air time is practically over and I appreciate that the ladies of the [word indistinct] have given me their time on this program to express my opinion.

You wanted me to talk about two things, however, I am going to talk about three things.

First I want to comment on your article in CRITICA. I fully share your views. Even though you wrote the article last night, one could say that you wrote it after hearing the phone call between the two partners [socios]. That phone call was a conversation between two partners—Bush, representing imperialism and the U.S. Government, and Endara, representing the servile ADOC wholly involved in the U.S. aggression.

Concerning the phone call, I wish to reiterate what I said yesterday in statements to Radio Tic Tac. That phone call stinks. It is a dirty, filthy phone call. Even though the conversation was held in everyday language, deep down it was a total surrender. Endara addressed Bush with reverence and deep fear. Endara did not show a single drop of Panamanian feeling. If he had a drop of Panamanian feeling in him, he would know that the aggression Bush has launched against Panama has been creating serious problems for the Panamanian people. However Endara does not care about the Panamanian people, he just wants Noriega out. Endara could have taken advantage of the phone call to tell Bush: Look Mr Bush, please give us a breather. Lift those economic restrictions. We live each day with the fear of an invasion. Put an end to all that. However, Endara did nothing of the sort. He talked to Bush like a partner, a partner he supports in his aggression against Panama.

Meanwhile, Bush said something that is very important, but I doubt Endara understood it—Endara is not too bright. Bush told him: Listen I am not going to give you power by force [a la brava]. See if you can work it out internally, because we are going to abide by what the OAS decides. Of course he wrapped this in some butter, honey, and sugar when he added: We continue to support you; we continue to support your slate; the U.S. people admire you; however, we will abide by what the OAS says and the OAS says that Noriega must leave. Endara then said: No, no, the OAS did not say that, but we [ADOC] want Noriega to leave and we will support anything you want us to support. That is the true meaning of the entire conversation.

In a way, Bush was trying to find out how much backing Endara really has to solve the problem internally. He also encouraged Endara to carry out internal actions to oust Noriega. Since the gringos have not been able to remove Noriega, Bush is now asking Endara to do it, while at the same time he is admitting and clearly telling him not to expect the United States to do this forcefully. Bush knows that we have charged that he, Bush, has asked for Noriega to be assassinated. Now Bush is protecting his back and he probably does not want an assassination, because he knows he is going to be blamed. He is just beginning his term in office and is probably aspiring for a second term. He is not only leaving the matter in the hands of the OAS, but also creating the conditions to support what Endara and his clique could do here in the country. [passage omitted]

Detention of U.S. Soldiers Sparks Incident

U.S.Tanks Reportedly Close Fort

PA0908171289 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1655 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Friends all over the country: We interrupt the program to give you last minute news. The U.S. Army has carried out a new act of aggression today. U.S. Southern Command troops stationed in the canal area took over the Fort Amador area at 1030. According to reports received by the Arraijan substation, 17 tanks with 5 men in each tank arrived at Fort Amador, blocked the entry with a cement bar, and placed 5 men in front of the bar. We repeat, this morning U.S. Southern Command units blocked the entry to the Amador area. At present, they are not allowing Panamanian citizens to transit the area freely. This is last minute news.

U.S. Closes Off Amador Access

PA1008014789 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2344 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] U.S. troops, in battle gear and with armored personnel carriers, closed off the access to Fort Amador this morning and arrested the two Panamanian military policemen who share guard duties with the U.S. military in accordance with the treaties. In addition, the U.S. military deployed equipment and men at various sites near the now defunct Canal Zone.

Mercedes Morris, the U.S. Southern Command's information official, tried to justify the new, base, and unnecessary demonstration of arrogance by the U.S. troops by saying this action occurred in retaliation for the detention of two U.S. soldiers in Panama City. This station learned that the two U.S. soldiers had entered 26th Street in Chorrillo in a U.S. military police vehicle without coordination with Panamanian authorities, which the treaties forbid.

The Panamanian police detained the U.S. soldiers and took them to one of the area garrisons, from where the U.S. authorities were advised, so the usual delivery ceremony would be held, as has happened many times before. The U.S. authorities, however, ignored the notification of the Panamanian liaison officers and, in an act

of intimidation and reprisal, closed off access to Fort Amador and detained the Panamanian soldiers who share with U.S. soldiers guard duties at the entrance to the base.

Threateningly, the U.S. Southern Command troops surrounded Fort Amador, ignoring the fact that the area they were invading was out of their military control, thus again flagrantly violating the treaties. Today's dangerous demonstration, ordered by [commander of U.S. Army South General] Marc Cisneros, attracted local and foreign reporters. U.S. military authorities established a strict control procedure to check anyone coming in or leaving Fort Amador, creating a tense climate that gave the impression that an armed confrontation could occur at anytime. The situation became even hotter when Ancon representative Emilio Garcia was about to enter Fort Amador and was intercepted by the U.S. military, who threatened to open fire.

[Begin Garcia recording] This bastard has just said he will fire if I move my vehicle. This is Panamanian territory and I am the representative of this corregimiento, you dumb bastard.

[Unidentified U.S. officer] Please, look.

[Garcia] He has to respect me if he wants me to respect him.

[Soldier] May I speak to you?

[Garcia] Yes. I am going to see Captain Moises Cortizo. You cannot stop me here for any reason whatsoever.

[Soldier] May I speak or not?

[Garcia] Yes.

[Soldier] Thanks. Major Mansfield wishes to send a message to Captain Cortizo. We are ready to speak with him to exchange prisoners, but it has to be here. If it is possible, please send a radio over here so Maj Mansfield can speak with him to arrange the procedures. That is all. [end recording]

After this exchange, Garcia was allowed to go through to Fort Amador. Colonel Rossi and Capt Cortizo held talks, which concluded with the exchange of the detained soldiers. The U.S. troops left the areas illegally and unnecessarily occupied by 18 armored personnel carriers in Fort Amador and 68 [as heard] at the Panama Canal Administration building and nearby areas. The solution to the disagreement via the exchange could have taken place at the beginning without endangering the Panamanian population if the treaties' stipulation for such cases had been complied with. The civilian population could have been spared this terrifying situation created by U.S. troops.

More on Amador Events

PA0908184789 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1748 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Relay from news team]

[Text] We are at the entrance to Fort Amador with our technical team to inform citizens that heavily armed U.S. troops—who arrived in armored vehicles equipped with heavy caliber machineguns and wearing camouflage uniforms—are installing barbwire at the entrance to this base in Fort Amador.

Members of the national and international press have gathered here waiting for the outcome of this incident, which is another provocation, only 24 hours after one near Arraijan with five armored vehicles of the U.S. Southern Command stationed in the canal area.

From here we can see heavily armed tanks carrying soldiers who are wearing camouflage uniforms and have their faces covered with paint. They are carrying high-caliber rifles, such as M-16s and antitank rifles. We can also see some heavy caliber machineguns.

At this moment, the soldiers have just finished installing the barbwire at the entrance to Fort Amador.

It is interesting to say that journalists have noticed that the U.S. soldiers only allow U.S. citizens to enter the Fort Amador military base, which is another violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

At this very moment a Cobra helicopter equipped with heavy artillery is overflying the area. It has been circling this sector for more than 1 hour.

Journalists here are waiting to see how this new provocation by U.S. troops in the Panama Canal area ends.

We have also confirmed that 20 heavily armed tanks of the U.S. Army are currently in front of the Administration Building. Ranger, Cobra and other warlike aircraft of the U.S. Southern Command stationed in Panama are overflying that area too.

It was learned this morning that two U.S. soldiers who claimed to be lost were detained by Panamanian authorities. This detention has been used by U.S. troops as a pretext to carry out this maneuver, which definitely is another action within what they call low-intensity warfare.

Further on U.S.'Intervention'

LD1008090789 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] In Panama the U.S. troops and the national defense forces are on the verge of a direct confrontation following several days of high tension during which the

U.S. units have mobilized tanks and aircraft. The United Nations Security Council will meet tomorrow to study Panama's denunciation. A report on this from Jose Manuel Martin Meden:

[Meden] The U.S. troops at the canal bases detained a group of officials, journalists, and members of Panamanian defense forces. Then two U.S. military policemen were detained by Panamanian units. Following this the Americans detained two Panamanian military policemen. In this situation tanks, helicopters, and aircraft have accompanied the U.S. troops in their deployment outside the bases. We are looking at one of the most serious crises in the Panama-United States confrontation of the past 3 years. In exclusive statements to Spanish National Radio here is the version of events as given by Nils Castro, the secretary for international relations of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, the most important group in the present coalition government:

[Begin recording] [Castro] In the past few weeks, and under different pretexts, there have been incursions by U.S. forces in areas which have absolutely nothing to do with the military units provisionally stationed in Panama. They are not minor incursions. Sometimes there are columns of tanks and armored vehicles accompanied by helicopter gunships, and even combat aircraft at times.

[Meden] What political interpretation do you make of these incidents?

[Castro] I think the U.S. military authorities are trying to achieve a bloody incident prior to the next meeting of the OAS in an act which is no longer just one of intimidating the Panamanian people, but also one of coercing the foreign ministers of Latin America to make a decision that goes against Panama in the fear that there will be a mass, direct military intevention by U.S. troops against this country.

[Meden] What are you going to ask for at the meeting of the United Nations Security Council?

[Castro] Once again we are going to denounce these acts and alert diplomatic circles and international public opinion to the nature of the abuse, the coercion, the prepotency which a big power is practicing on a small country.

[Meden] Finally, we would like to ask you how you explain this resurgence of tension in Panama when the Central American presidents have just taken what seems to be an important step toward peace in Central America?

[Castro] Obviously, the U.S. authorities have a different perspective on Panama right now—they view it in the same way that they view Puerto Rico and their interests in Puerto Rico. The actions of the present U.S. Government, like the previous government, would seem to be aimed at the Puerto Ricanization of Panama. They do not view our country within the framework of Central American reconciliation, but exactly the opposite. They are doing it most vigorously right now just as political agreement has been made feasible between the different Panamanian forces. [end recording]

PRD's Duque on U.S. Aggression

PA0908145289 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 9 Aug 89 pp A-1, B-4

[Text] In strong statements made last night to national and international newsmen, Carlos Duque, president of the majority Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], flatly condemned the new aggression staged by U.S. Army troops, this time in the corregimiento of Arraijan. He voiced the PRD rejection of the proposal calling for a plebiscite made by the ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] and commented on the recent statement made by the Panamanian Episcopal Conference [CEP]

Upon learning of the extent of the aggressive attitude shown yesterday by the U.S. troops against Panamanian civilians and military personnel, Carlos Duque termed the action as "one more aggression which flagrantly violates the Torrijos-Carter treaties and imposes the language of tanks on fellow citizens, who were treated as war prisoners in their own country for the sole crime of demanding respect for national sovereignty." The PRD leader protested the U.S. presence and said he "felt personally the abuses to which the Panamanians were subjected yesterday after being arrested in a barbaric act of intimidation. This openly demonstrates the extremes to which those who desperately want to provoke us so as to to justify a much larger, more cruel, and open provocation against us are ready to go. [no closing quote] For Carlos Duque, there is no doubt whatsoever as to the devious intentions of the so-called U.S. Army. He called on Latin American solidarity to repel these constant threats.

Regarding the proposal made by the ADOC representatives in the tripartite dialogue held under the auspices of the OAS, the former presidential candidate stated: "We are opposed to the fact that the ADOC's proposal is based on the premise that an agreement has not been possible. This contradicts its alleged interest in participating in a negotiation with the rest of the country's political forces.

Duque believes that the ADOC has unilaterally stated that the negotiation process under the auspices of the OAS has concluded. "This situation is not in keeping with the truth of the facts, because ADOC submitted its proposal when the parties were in the initial stage of analyzing such proposals. Dwelling on the topic, Carlos Duque, on behalf of the National Liberation Coalition [COLINA], said that the ADOC seeks to justify its call for a plebiscite on the OAS report and resolution, when its own proposal is contrary to the aims and purposes of

the agreements reached at the 21st consultative meeting of foreign ministers held 20 July which urged the commission members to assist the parties in holding the negotiation process.

For Carlos Duque, the idea of holding a plebiscite detracts from the real problems and solutions that are necessary so that peace, democracy, development and the principle of nonintervention by any power in Panama's domestic affairs will prevail.

Duque issued an appeal last night to ADOC leaders that they sit down in good faith at the negotiating table to discuss the real national problems in order to overcome the political crisis in which the Panamanian nation finds itself. "Good faith is built with facts, and thus far the only thing that the ADOC has prevailed on is an attitude of avoiding a negotiated political solution to the crisis." The PRD president charged the ADOC attitude as being anti-Panamanian, because in the long run it seeks the direct intervention of the U.S. Government to impose an antinational government, excluding the broad participation of all Panamanian social and political sectors.

Regarding the proposals made recently by the CEP, Carlos Duque said that in his opinion "in these moments of dialogue, when an attempt is being made to seek an understanding, the CEP position does not contribute to promoting a climate of political negotiation between the different national sectors, including of course the Panamanian Armed Forces.

Duque maintains that the CEP proposal, at this moment, lacks the basic principle of objectivity, because it places the problem of U.S. economic and military aggression against Panama in second place. "In our opinion this constitutes the true and authentic root of the current political crisis that is hitting the Panamanians hard, especially the most needy," he stated.

FDP Avoids Confrontation

PA0908185889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1810 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Panama City, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian Defense Forces [FDP] spokesmen have reported that U.S. Southern Command tanks and troops have blocked the access road to Fort Amador. This fort, located on the outskirts of the city, is shared by the Armies of both countries.

Southern Command Public Relations Director Ronald Sconyers stated that the movement of troops and armed vehicles was ordered because the Panamanians had arrested two U.S. military policemen this morning.

Sconyers told ACAN-EFE that the U.S. military policeman was arrested near El Chorrillo, a neighorhood close to the Panamanian Defense Forces headquarters. The second U.S. soldier was arrested when he went to Fort Amador to try to get the first soldier released.

U.S. troops then proceeded to arrest 2 Panamanian soldiers who were guarding the entrance of Fort Amador. Usually, there are soldiers from both countries at this sentry post.

An FDP spokesman confirmed to ACAN-EFE that U.S. tanks blocked the entry to Fort Amador and added that other incidents have been reported in other parts of Panama City.

Yesterday, U.S. soldiers disarmed and held 7 Panamanian military units for several hours; one of them was Mayor Manuel Sieiro who is FDP Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega's brother-in-law.

Panamanian citizens have reported that U.S. troops, helicopters, and armored vehicles have been moving around the Ancon area where the Southern Command has its headquarters.

The soldiers who blocked the entry to Fort Amador—where Gen Noriega has his offices—have held retired officers from Latin American armies for some time, said the FDP spokesman. He added that the Latin American officers had been visiting the Panamanian garrison.

The retired officers, several of them generals, are attending a meeting of the Organization of Military Officers for the Democracy, Integration, and Freedom of Latin America and the Caribbean (OMIDELAC), that started in Panama City on 7 August.

According to the same Panamanian source, up to now there has been no confrontation between the U.S. and Panamanian troops.

"Our line is to avoid situations that would justify an intervention. We are not going to fall into a trap; we do not want violence," the spokesman told ACAN-EFE.

The Panamanian General Command of the Defense and Security Commission (COGECODESE) offices are located in the Panamanian section of Fort Amador and U.S. soldiers have blocked the access to these offices and its armed vehicles are pointing at it.

U.S. Said Provoking 'Incident'

LD1008081889 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0700 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] In the past few hours tension has heightened in the Panama Canal with new incidents between U.S. and Panamanian soldiers. Troops from the U.S. Southern Command supported by several armored cars blocked access roads to a joint-use military installation and arrested two Panamanian military policemen in response to the arrest of two U.S. military policemen by Panamanian forces, according to a U.S. spokesman. In statements to Spanish National Radio the secretary for international

relations of the ruling Democratic Revolutionary Party has said that the United States is seeking to provoke a serious incident so it can intervene in Panama:

[Begin recording] [unidentified secretary] I think that the U.S. military authorities are trying to achieve a bloody incident prior to the next meeting of the OAS in an act which is no longer just one of intimidation of the Panamanian people, but also one of coercion against the foreign ministers of Latin America to compel them to make a decision that goes against Panama in the fear that there will be a mass, direct military intervention by U.S. troops against this country. [end recording]

Newspaper Criticizes U.S. Military

PA0908151389 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 9 Aug 89 p 4

[Editorial: "They Sure as Hell Will Leave"]

[Text] Panama, its people, and its government were again subjected to another insult by Yankee soldiery who are usurping our nation's sovereign territory. A half dozen tanks committed outrages in the Arraijan community. The residents of the community, angered by their offensive behavior, surrounded the tanks and made them withdraw. The soldiers resorted to the low practice of attracting the Panamanians to an area occupied by the U.S. Army and then proceeded to arrest them.

The information received reported the incident and indicated that among those arrested were Panama Defense Forces personnel, local officials—including the mayor—and even the director of the MATUTINO newspaper who was following the news.

The incident is an action of arrogance by the troops under the command of a mad, bloodthirsty general who has completely lost any sense of what should be peaceful relations with a nation such as ours that is not at war with his country; quite the contrary, it only wants to be left in peace to continue to construct its future without foreign interference.

The U.S. Army tanks incident in the Arraijan community yesterday could have led to a regrettable tragedy. It could have been the fuse, the spark, that could have caused the feared holocaust of a confrontation between unarmed residents and the soldiers of the brutish empire, a confrontation with unforeseen results that would probably have had an impact in the entire Central American area, including the Caribbean. The invading Army, commanded by the mad wetback without a country Marc Cisneros, is irresponsibly playing with fire in this very delicate situation. It would not be surprising that provocations of the type held yesterday continue in that same area. It would also not be surprising that Cisneros himself is ordering these provocative actions in his desperation to justify his troops' physical aggression against our unarmed Panamanian population. All the actions ordered by Cisneros in the past weeks indicate that such is his purpose: to humiliate us until we blow up.

Panama, however, cannot fall into these provocations caused by an irresponsible general without a country who, precisely because he does not know what it is to be part of a nation with historic roots and to love and respect its common ideals, acts like what he is: a common mercenary with an unquenchable thirst for innocent blood.

Our people, who have deep roots and a heritage left to them by our heroes and martyrs, know that history is on their side and that sooner or later we will attain victory over the irrationality of the Bushes and their gang in the domineering empire that overpowers weak and small nations. Our people will continue to uphold its virile stoicism, without kneeling and without cowardice. It will continue to use its astute intelligence to leave a free and sovereign nation to its future generations.

We will win over the invading gringos and we will make them bite the dust of defeat even if we are a weak and small nation. We will win even if our only weapons are that reason is on our side and that we are a people with dignity who will not be humiliated even by the world's most powerful Army.

The Cisneros of the imperial Army will leave our country with their tails between their legs just as in Vietnam and the Bay of Pigs. We swear it by the memory of our martyrs and Omar Torrijos

Editorial Raps U.S. on Incident

PA0908152689 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 9 Aug 89 p 4

[Editorial: "The U.S. Southern Command Conducts a Brutal Aggression Against Panama"]

[Text] Following General Marc Cisneros' instructions yesterday morning, the U.S. Southern Command turned its threats of aggression against our country into a reality. Apparently the criminal who leads the U.S. Southern Command troops was tired of having remained in the field of the insolent threats for so long and suddenly decided to cross the border that separates words from actions.

In an unjustifiable action, U.S. soldiers entered the highway that links Panama City with the country's interior on board five armored vehicles. When some Arraijan town residents blocked the highway with vehicles, the U.S. troops' commanding officer warned the Arraijan civilians to leave the area. The U.S. soldiers reinforced their demand with their large caliber weapons, armored vehicles, and later with the almost immediate presence of two Cobra helicopters that openly violated our airspace since they were outside the areas in which they are allowed to fly.

It is important to stress that when the U.S. troops cleared the way by breaking the vehicle barricade, they desecrated the Panamanian flag and also detained Arraijan municipal officials and Panama Defense Forces [FDP] members.

The incident should be considered a war action. This action is part of a war in which the intruders under Cisneros' command have been able to act without punishment up till now, because the FDP members respect the order given by its top leader, Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega. Gen Noriega ordered the FDP members not to fire the first shot or inflict the first casualty, because such action could turn the not so cold war waged by Cisneros into a real war. Cisneros himself is making sure the temperature of this war rises.

Yesterday's incident is the most evident proof that George Bush's government has chosen—among its many Army generals—one who in accordance with his record is most fond of other people's blood. The U.S. Government chose Marc Cisneros. He is a monster and his humanoid psychology is reaching a state of desperation, because he cannot fulfill his sick desire to enter Panamanian territory and carry out his tragic mission of extermination.

We must also stress that President Bush and his government are ultimately responsible for this dark episode in our history. After all, the decisive orders that are harming Panama so much come from Capitol Hill.[as published] Thus, the responsibility of what may happen here will not solely fall upon those who carry out those deadly orders, but mostly upon the masterminds behind the massive murder they want to carry out in our country. That murder would apparently be carried out before the eyes of all of Latin America and the world. The world seems willing to let it happen while it turns its indifferent eyes the other way without taking into account that the goal being pursued is not only to destroy Panama—which would only be the first of a series of victims—but also to destroy all the remaining Latin American countries.

For the time being, Panama has responded peacefully to this new offense, which hurts, humiliates, and provokes us.

Let them not be deceived by that response though. If the last straw breaks the camel's back, our response will be a very different one. It will probably be one filled with regrettable consequences for this disarmed people, but one that the world's most powerful people will also regret. May God enlighten their darkened thoughts plagued with ambitions and thirst for power. If God does not enlighten them, they will also have to shed a large amount of blood, sweat, and tears.

Endara: FDP 'Asking For' Incident

PA0908214789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1535 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Panama City, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara stated today that incidents, such as occurred yesterday when Major Manuel Sieiro, General Manuel Antonio Noriega's brother-in-law, was detained and disarmed by U.S. troops, are what the Panamanian Defense Forces [FDP] "was asking for."

Endara believes that this and other incidents, in the wake of frequent U.S. maneuvers in Panama, are "regrettable," but the current Panamanian regime and military "were asking for" them when they signed the 1977 canal treaties with the United States which permit the U.S. troop exercises.

"With Gen Noriega (in power) we will not have good relations with the United States. The incident is a result of these lousy relations," Endara told ACAN-EFE.

The opposition leader recalled that when a plebiscite was held to approve the 1977 canal treaties, "a group of lawyers criticized the excessive permission granted to the United States, because it permitted U.S. military maneuvers to be carried out, which was not deemed advisable for Panamanian sovereignty."

Endara also recalled that he and other attorneys particularly criticized the fact that the U.S. Army could go from one of their bases to another through so-called "white zones," which are completely under Panamanian jurisdiction.

"However, they described us as radical nationalists and communists, which is entirely different to what they call us today," Endara said. Endara was a presidential candidate in the annulled 7 May elections. According to Endara, they were "asking for yesterday's incident, when they did not heed us at that time."

The U.S. Southcom, which has 12,000 troops stationed on the isthmus, announced yesterday that a "platoon reinforced with light armored vehicles" on a reconnaissance operation, detained and disarmed 29 Panamanians, civilian and military, who were "in an area of U.S. coordination."

According to the Panamanian report, the incident occurred in a "white area," outside of the zone in which the U.S. military has control.

Maj Sieiro, the highest ranking Panamanian who was detained and disarmed by the "Marines" [as received], said that it was a "fully intended provocation," and blamed General Marc Cisneros, commander of the U.S. Army South, whom he called a "damned pocho (Mexican-American) without a fatherland and without a mother."

PDC Against Southcom Actions

PA1008033989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0014 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Panama City, 9 Aug (DPA)—Panama's Christian Democratic Party [PDC] said today, through its acting president Carlos Arellano Lennox, that it is "not in agreement with any of the recent actions the U.S. Southern Command [Southcom] has been carrying out in Panama."

Arellano Lennox spoke against the mobilization of U.S. troops in Panama because this creates a climate of tension among citizens and helps General Noriega spread a false nationalistic cause internationally.

Arellano Lennox also believed that U.S. actions could deviate from the Panamanians' true goal of attaining the country's democratization.

The PDC leader said: "There are no indications at all (to believe) that Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega plans to leave office."

He explained that "Gen Noriega's regime continues to worsen the country's crisis" with arbitrary arrests, illegal searches, violations to the university's autonomy, and the firing of mayors elected by popular vote."

The opposition politician feels this is proof that Noriega does not plan to leave office because "this is proven constantly in the history of Latin American totalitarian dictatorships, where force tries to usurp the people's rights to stay in power."

Army Vehicle Detained

PA1008021489 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2349 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] A new incident provoked this afternoon by the United States could have resulted in a deplorable act of violence. A few hours ago, members of the Traffic Department fulfilled their duty near the general market by detaining a U.S. military vehicle traveling without an escort in a white area—meaning within Panamanian jurisdiction. The passengers claimed that they were lost.

Given the situation, liaison units were called to escort the vehicle. Nevertheless, five heavily-armed U.S. civilians wearing bullet-proof vests arrived in privately owned vehicles and assumed a hostile attitude toward the Panamanians, as can be ascertained in the following film clip, which clearly shows the Yankees' arrogance and the degree of anger that this is causing among patriotic Panamanian people.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified Panamanian officer—broadcast in progress] ...deployments and abuse these peaceful people.

[Unidentified U.S. officer—in Spanish] You are now talking politics; I am not a politician. I am only saying that the men with me are members of the Military Police.

[First Panamanian officer] I am talking to you as a military officer. They cannot be here like this.

[U.S. officer] Yes, they can.

[First Panamanian officer] They can be here?

[U.S. officer] I said...I mean I heard what you said.

[First Panamanian officer] Correct. Then...

[U.S. officer] Then, they are here because they are with me. They are accompanying me.

[First Panamanian officer] I already told you, and your own men can attest to that, that we have given them support and told them that there is no problem—and that their own people will come help them and take them to their point of origin. However, you cannot do that, you cannot do that [repeats himself].

[U.S. officer] I answered the call and I saw that you had weapons. I have weapons, too, because that is my responsibility.

[First Panamanian officer] If that is the case, we will take military action.

[U.S. officer] If you want to take military action that, is your problem. [First Panamanian officer] Is that so? All right, we will do so.

[U.S. officer] You have your instructions and I have my instructions.

[First Panamanian officer] All right, that is correct, if you want to prove that you are more of a man.

[U.S. officer] This has nothing to do with being more of a man or anything like that. It is simply a matter of regulations. I did not come here to fight, I came here to (?see what is happening). If someone points a weapon at us, then we have to...

[First Panamanian officer—interrupts] Who is pointing a weapon at you? Them?

[U.S. officer] [Words indistinct] here.

[First Panamanian officer] Who are they? We do not know who the are.

[U.S. officer] I already told you that they are Military Policemen, but you do not care about that. You do not want to hear that, right?

[First Panamanian officer] Look, none of them identified himself a Military Policeman.

[U.S. officer] [Words indistinct]

[First Panamanian officer] I have not seen their (?identification papers).

[U.S. officer] My commanding officer is coming and he wants to talk with you.

[First Panamanian officer] Everyone take up your positions! [voices and sounds of traffic in the background]

[U.S. officer] I will not say anything until my commanding officer arrives. My commanding officer is coming. Major Mansfield is coming. He requested instructions and he will (?soon arrive).

[Second Panamanian officer] I want to let Major Mansfield and you know that we are fed up with this stupid situation! We are fed up and we are reaching our limit! [turns toward camera crew] Film this so that the world may know that they are armed and travel in privately owned vehicles in white areas. Film it from this angle so you can get their license numbers.

[U.S. officer] [Words indistinct] [Addresses unidentified man in English] He says that he committed a violation and he is going to receive a ticket and he wants [words indistinct] against his identification, and I told him: This man tells me that he was just lost. Now he is saying that he committed a violation.

[Unidentified man] [Words indistinct] get his ticket and he will be released. Let me [words indistinct].

[U.S. officer] Well, he did not commit a violation! [Camera pans to show arrival of several military vehicles]

[Second Panamanian officer] You know very well that they cannot go around like this in white areas—and we cannot allow it! [Camera pans to show officers conferring among themselves]

[First Panamanian officer] Tell the vehicle over there to follow them. They will guide them.

[U.S. officer—pointing to the second Panamanian officer] What is this man's name?

[Second Panamanian officer] My name is Superman!

[U.S. Officer] Superman?

[Second Panamanian officer] [Words indistinct]

[U.S. officer] We will report you too. [Words indistinct]

Government Against Continued OAS Mediation

PA0908155789 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter has said that the U.S. Army's harassment and threats against Panamanian civilians and military give Panama the opportunity to continue lodging complaints with international organizations like the United Nations.

[Begin recording] [Ritter] I think this shows the [U.S.] contempt for the OAS, perhaps because it has refused or declined to comply with the U. S. demands or orders. However, the fact that this happened in the presence of the OAS is truly outrageous.

Panama will point out the persistence of the U.S. military aggression at this organization and to the OAS mission members. This matter will again be raised at the United Nations in order for this top international organization to serve notice that the United States does not object to violating the Panama Canal treaties and has insisted in carrying out these military maneuvers. Therefore, I think the United Nations is a forum to which we must take recourse immediately. The UN General Assembly is scheduled to meet in a few days. We also have another possibility. It is the UN Security Council, which can meet any time.

[Reporter] When will the OAS mission return to Panama to resume the dialogue?

[Ritter] I do not know if the OAS mission will even return to Panama. To a great extent, this will depend on whether it sees that the dialogue has continued or if the parties to the dialogue ask it to return. Remember that the idea of the mission was to help us establish mechanisms. The procedures have already been established and the dialogue should function with us alone. As Foreign Minister Cordovez said yesterday, the sides have already been weaned from the OAS.

I think that what is regrettable about this interruption is that the dialogue seemed to be taking on momentum and we were already discussing concrete —not theoretical or conceptual proposals—and formal proposals. Then the trip of one of the candidates came up and the result was that the dialogue had to be postponed almost a full week.

I hope the negotiations will be resumed as soon as possible and that the OAS—or the mission of foreign ministers—will not have to return to Panama, not because they are not welcome but because the sides find no need for them to be present in Panama. [end recording]

Mission To Renew Negotiations

PA1008000789 Paris AFP in Spanish 2308 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Washington, 9 Aug (AFP)—The OAS ministerial mission will return this week to Panama to renew its negotiations with the government and the opposition in

the search for an "urgent" solution to the political crisis that affects the country, it was reported today by diplomatic sources in Washington.

The sources confirmed that the OAS Secretary General's adviser, Cuban Guillermo Bell, today traveled [to Panama] via Miami, and the foreign ministers of Guatemala (Mario Palencia), Ecuador (Diego Cordovez), and Trinidad-Tobado (Sahadeo Basdeo), who comprise the international commission, will arrive afterward.

The sources indicated that Bell must meet on Thursday, 10 August with representatives of the two Panamanian political sectors, who suspended the dialogue upon the request of the opposition.

Likewise, they indicated that the foreign ministers might join the negotiations next Wednesday, 16 August "and not before, waiting for the parties in conflict to reach an agreement."

OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares—who completes the mission—will only travel to Panama "if it is strictly necessary," and he will be represented by his adviser during the dialogue. [passage omitted]

Columnist Criticizes Opposition Delaying Tactics
PA1008023489 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 8 Aug 89 p 5

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo: "Dilatory Tactics"]

[Text] Outstanding members of groups opposed to the constitutional government of Panama, obeying orders from U.S. President George Bush, have left the country on a tour that will take them to the capitals of three countries. According to spokesmen for those groups, "the tour is to consult with the presidents of Venezuela, Colombia, and Peru, to inform them about the Panamanian situation, and to seek support to overthrow the Panamanian Government, and especially, to have the presidents of those three countries exert pressure on General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, to leave the country as soon as possible."

It was immediately understood that the tour is nothing but the implementation of one of the U.S.-designed dilatory tactics to prevent a Panamanian solution to the crisis that is burdening the country.

One may easily find significant similarities in the situation of Panama and Nicaragua, because in both cases, President Bush, through his agents, is looking for ways to prevent a peaceful solution to problems. Shortly before the meeting of the five presidents of Central America in Tela, Honduras, President Bush called to his office his main Nicaraguan agent and ordered him "to impede by any means a solution to the problem that the armed groups known as the contras represent to peace in the region." It is very probable that Mr [Adolfo] Calero immediately received a goodly amount of coins so that he would carry out his mission, because he immediately contended that "the contras must remain armed until after the holding of the Nicaraguan elections set for next year."

To Calero, Bush said: "No immediate solution." To the Panamanian opposition's delegates to the tripartite dialogue Bush ordered: "Let there be no solution through the OAS," and then the dialogue was suspended until Thursday.

Bush's strategy in the case of Panama is simple—prevent a quick peaceful solution by all means. He needs time to secure Latin America, to increase the disinformation campaign being waged in his country against Panama and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, to prepare the grounds for a military action against Panama and his people, and to void the 1977 canal treaties using as a pretext the security of the canal and of the United States. Bush needs time to impose the militarization of the canal and to occupy our country indefinitely, and to do all this with the collaboration and pleasure of Panamanian rulers picked by Washington who would have to be mentally domesticated and committed to delivering Panama's sovereignty to the aggressor nation to the north.

The dilatory tactics that are being used in Panama right now are designed to create confusion and aimed at boycotting the OAS efforts for a peaceful solution to the problem. Unconditionally, without shame, immorally, the top representatives of the opposition are trying to defeat the dialogue and to open the road to military occupation of our country by the Southern Command Armies.

Assembly President Seeks Mexican Support
PA1008005389 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 1 Aug 89 p 5

[Report by Mauricio Conde Olivares]

[Text] Panama yesterday sought the support of the Mexican people to make the U.S. abide by the Torrijos-Carter treaties. Panama said that it is practically experiencing intervention in view of the excessive U.S. military presence in the canal area, and that they are only a step away from the mobilization of the U.S. Army throughout the country.

Celso Gustavo Carrizo, President of the Panama Legislative Assembly, made these statements yesterday after meeting with Nicolas Reynes Berezaluce, Secretary of the Mexican Senate's Main Commission.

Carrizo said that he had come to the Mexican Senate, "not to seek answers to our demands, but to report on our country's situation."

He said that Panamanians "feel committed to Mexico and its Congress, because in all international forums, especially in the Organization of American States (OAS), they have expressed their determined support for self-determination and non-intervention by foreign powers in our domestic affairs."

He said that Panama has excellent relations with Mexico and that is why "we have been pleased with the position adopted by Mexico at the OAS."

During his meeting with Reyes Berezaluce, Carrizo said that the Panamanian people are ready to go to all international forums to defend our people's right to see that the Torrijos-Carter treaties are respected, for the attainment of the total administration of the Panama Canal, and for the immediate withdrawal of foreign forces.

Nicolas Reynes said that Mexico has not changed its foreign policy. He said: "By our foreign policy, the world is aware that we, as a nation, are unwavering in the fulfillment of the people's self-determination and nonintervention in other countries' domestic affairs."

On behalf of the Panamanian people, Carrizo reiterated that U.S. authorities are intervening in his country's domestic affairs. He said: "They financed the opposition parties during the last presidential elections with more than $400 million." [figure as received]

Carrizo said that is why the U.S. foreign policy is interventionist and disrespectful.

He concluded: "We have advocated dialogue as the means to solve domestic issues. We have always believed in dialogue as the best solution for our society and its progress."

Clandestine Station Interferes With Radio Signals

PA0908233389 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2301 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Panama City, 9 Aug (DPA)—The signals of several Panamanian radio stations were interfered with today with harangues against General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP].

Radio Mia General Manager Manuel Gonzalez said that his programming was interrupted by a clandestine broadcast that attacked the country's government and the military.

The government radio station's signal was also interfered with, it was announced.

It was unofficially learned that the voice heard in the clandestine broadcasts was that of former Colonel Eduardo Herrera, who has been living in Washington since he was dismissed from the FDP in May 1988.

In April, the Panamanian authorities dismantled a network of clandestine stations and accused the U.S. Government of providing the funds for the operations.

New Director of Canal Affairs Office Named

PA0908163489 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Text] Today the national government appointed Captain Severino Mejia Mosquera as executive director of the Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate. Severino replaces Major Daniel Delgado.

Capt Severino is a graduate of the Octavio Mendez Pereira School, the National Institute, Panama University, and the Naval School of Veracruz, Mexico. He holds a bachelor's degree in international affairs.

Severino has previously been chief of the Panama Defense Forces Commander's Operations Center, and vice president of the FDP's Center for High Military and Political Studies.

Media Review of Political, Economic Situation

PA0908180489

[Editorial Report] The following is a review of material from Panamanian and regional media related to the current political and economic situation in Panama. This review draws solely on broadcast and press reports monitored by FBIS Panama Bureau. The review covers the period from 3 to 7 August and includes some items that have been processed in fuller form.

3 August Student Demonstrations

One student was shot to death and several wounded on 3 August when students from two state-run universities clashed with Panamanian riot police during a demonstration near the University of Panama campus. The protest reportedly was triggered by student dissatisfaction with the Organization of American States (OAS) mediating mission to Panama. Demonstrators shouted slogans against Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, the head of the OAS mission to Panama, who earlier had criticized the Panamanian opposition for its attitude toward the OAS mediation efforts. The students also condemned the OAS' call for new presidential elections, claiming that the opposition's victory in the annulled 7 May elections should be recognized.

Regime-controlled media acknowledged the university demonstrations but downplayed the death of the student, the first fatality to occur as a result of a public confrontation between government and opposition forces since May. The daily newspaper CRITICA, a supporter of Panamanian strongman Manuel Noriega, on 4 August reported that the student had been killed long before Panamanian police arrived at the university campus. CRITICA suggested that the student's death

and injuries to other protesters and bystanders resulted from fighting between rival student organizations affiliated with various opposition parties.

Reaction to the campus protests from government and opposition leaders was muted. Both sides regretted the violence that occurred but neither suggested that the incident would impede the tripartite dialogue now under way to find a solution to the country's political impasse. The Government and Justice Ministry issued a communique warning that people who continue to promote "disruptive" demonstrations will be punished "with the full weight of the law." Meanwhile, the Education Ministry suspended classes in high schools in Panama City, Colon, and Chorrera until further notice and at all branches of the state-run national and technological universities at least until Wednesday, 9 August.

The Economy

U.S. "Economic Aggression"—Panamanian Minister of Planning and Economic Policy Gustavo Gonzalez told delegates to the 15th conference of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) in Cartagena, Colombia that the U.S. "economic aggression" against Panama may increase and might even be extended to other Latin American countries. Gonzalez told the delegates that SELA support is important to Panama as is economic and financial cooperation with the industrialized countries and with "nontraditional" international forums in Europe and other regions.

Government Revenues—A Finance and Treasury Ministry official noted last week that government revenues had fallen off sharply due to U.S. sanctions. The director of the ministry's revenue department said that revenues from sources such as canal tolls, canal zone leases, and oil transportation fees had fallen to zero in the last 6 months. According to the official, revenues not affected by U.S. economic measures have shown "significant increases." These include import tax collection, up by 20 percent over the same period last year; value-added tax, up by 9 percent; and commercial license fees, up by 20 percent. The revenue director concluded that if not for the U.S. sanctions, Panama's economy would be growing, with a consequent increase in the population's standard of living.

Panamanian Stock Exchange—A Panamanian economist has proposed the creation of a stock exchange as an alternative source of credits and operational funds for the private and public sectors. Guillermo Chapman explained that existing political conditions as well as some long-term economic trends have contributed to the disappearance of "easy, voluminous, and relatively cheap credit" that previously had been available through banks and international financial sources. Chapman said that a stock exchange would provide companies operating in Panama with a means to obtain funds through certificates or short-term credit notes. Chapman noted that a group of unidentified businessmen and professionals is interested in establishing the exchange.

Banking Restrictions—The executive secretary of the National Banking Commission, in explaining a decision to extend restrictions on bank withdrawals, predicted that a run on banks definitely would occur if controls were lifted. He said in a television interview that the banks "simply do not have enough money for everyone" and that a gradual loosening of restrictions was the only way the banks could prepare for the inevitable rush for cash. The official denied that there is a lack of confidence in the banking system and asserted that the system "was and is in good condition."

Black Market Activity—The Association of Panamanian Industrialists (SIP) has issued a study on black market activity which reports that the value of "contraband" products reached $88.4 million in 1988. According to the SIP, national production fell by 23.7 percent from 1987 to 1988, with at least 5 percent of that decrease attributable to dealings in contraband. Moreover, the government has lost about $70 million in uncollected duties, import sales taxes, and production taxes. The SIP, along with the Panamanian Chamber of Commerce, has decided to launch an anti-contraband campaign in order to curb such activity throughout the productive sector.

Merchant Marine Growth—The Director of the General Consular and Ships Directorate said on 3 August that despite the current political crisis, the number of Panamanian-flagged ships has continued to grow, reflecting shipowners' confidence in the country's shipping industry. Hugo Torrijos Richa pointed out that Panama may even surpass Liberia as the world's leading merchant marine when Lloyds Shipping Register releases tonnage figures in October. Richa noted that maritime activities provide the government with more than $30 million in revenues and an additional $40 million in indirect revenues from services such as lawyers, notaries, and translators.

Argentina

Menem Cited on Possibility of Contacts With UK

PY1008015189 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2025 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Mendoza, 9 Aug (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem has not ruled out the existence of unofficial contacts between Argentina and Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands. He clarified, however, that "officially and at the congressional level" there has been no dialogue between the two countries.

Menem, who due to bad weather conditions had to make a technical stopover at the El Plumerillo Airport on his trip to Las Lenas, where he arrived at 1700, said "we know nothing about what is being said about the Malvinas. They are expressions of the hopes and wishes of the two countries, but not the result of contacts between them."

He added: "I have not ruled out that unofficial contacts may exist, but there are none officially or at the congressional level."

'Direct Contact' With UK Denied

PY1008015589 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2305 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug (NA)—Presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo said today that the Argentine Government "does not have and does not plan to have future direct contact" with Great Britain.

Toledo said, however, that "the latest progress was positive and should be strengthened."

This is how Toledo reacted to reports from international news agencies about an imminent direct contact between Argentine and British diplomats.

The agencies had reported that the contact would take place next week or perhaps tomorrow in New York under UN sponsorship.

The agencies referred to comments from diplomatic sources published by the London daily FINANCIAL TIMES which revealed an agreement to resume negotiations on 16 and 17 August.

The daily added that the participants in the talks will be Crispin Tickell, Great Britain's UN representative, and Lucio Garcia del Solar, Argentine ambasador in Washington. The daily hinted that the issue of sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands would be left out of the first contact.

Chile's Buchi Arrives, Comments on Economy

PY0908214189 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1513 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 8 Aug (TELAM)—Chilean presidential candidate Hernan Buchi today said that the Argentine economic crisis, which is creating high inflation rates and great difficulties for the country's development, "calls for straightforward decisions." He added: "I believe President Menem's administration is following the right path."

Buchi, who made these remarks after meeting with President Menem at Government House, said he agreed with President Menem that Argentine-Chilean integration "depends on the two countries' will and on a favorable economic situation." [passage omitted]

Concerning the possible trials of military men during the next government to be elected in Chile on 14 December, Buchi said: "I think that the existing law should be complied with and that efforts should be made to solve several pending legal cases. [no closing quotation marks as received] He added that the appropriate courts should sentence the guilty parties in accordance with this law.

Regarding the existing amnesty law, Buchi said: "this law has to some degree helped to preserve the balance between the quest for justice and the need for peace in Chile."

In response to a question put by Argentine journalists on whether the Chilean politicians could get rid of military tutelage in the near future, Buchi said: "I am convinced that Chileans will continue to comply with the Constitution as they have always done. Therefore, our military men will play their constitutional role."

Luder Says Seineldin, Rico To Be Retired

PY1008025889 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2220 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug (NA)—Defense Minister Italo Luder said this afternoon that Colonel Mohamed Seineldin and Lieutenant Colonel Aldo Rico will retire either "voluntarily or by persuasion."

Luder said the retirements will occur within the framework of a solution to the so-called military problem, which will start soon after the first stage of "appointments" is completed.

Luder said: "The first stage has already been fulfilled with the changes of the chiefs of the joint staffs and of the three Armed Forces, and of the directors of the companies" under the jurisdiction of the Defense Ministry.

He said that "the second stage will now begin with the solution of the Army problem. He said that "a decision has already been made for the medium-level cadre. They will receive small disciplinary sanctions."

Regarding the leaders of the Easter, Monte Caseros, and Villa Martelli uprisings—Rico and Seineldin—the minister pointed out that they will retire either "voluntarily or by persuasion." [passage omitted]

Official on Integration With Brazil, Bolivia

PY0908163689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2331 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Aug (TELAM)—Raul Carignano, the Foreign Ministry secretary for Latin American affairs, today said at the Foreign Ministry that "Latin American integration is an irrevocable fact and cooperation with Brazil and Bolivia represents a basic first step."

Carignano went on to say that "a step toward integration with Brazil will be the meetings between Presidents Carlos Menem and Jose Sarney, scheduled to take place in Uruguayana, Brasilia, and Sao Paulo, from 22 to 24 August, after the approval of the integration treaty by the Argentine and Brazilian Senates. [no closing quotation mark as received].

The Foreign Ministry official said that this meeting will open the way for unexpected possibilities in the nuclear field and in aerospace research, which will complement other projects foreseen in former protocols.

According to President Menem and Foreign Minister Cavallo, food sales and the supply of gas will be discussed during the bilateral negotiations. The political will of the two countries will be reflected by Argentine participation in the construction of a railway line between San Luis and Teresinha, "turn key" hospitals, and gas sales.

Integration with Bolivia will be consolidated through the opening of the Pilcomayo-Paraguay-Parana River route, which will reduce the cost of transportation by 70 percent. The IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] has already approved the financing for this project, and Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez ratified it on 6 August in La Paz.

Carignano said that next week a bilateral committee will begin to study several integration projects with Bolivia, including Argentina's payment for gas purchases from Bolivia.

Privatization of State-Owned Enterprises Proposed

PY0908223889 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1839 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug (TELAM)—Following a reconciliation between Justicialist senators and deputies, and Public Works and Services Minister Roberto Dromi, the State Reform Bill will provide for the privatization or concession of 32 state-owned enterprises or agencies.

The list of enterprises, included in the State Reform Bill as an annex, provides for the privatization or concession of these enterprises, depending on the decision made by the National Executive Branch for each case.

The list includes the following state-owned enterprises or agencies:

ENTEL [National Telecommunications Enterprise] (privatization or concession); Aerolineas Argentinas [Argentine State Airline] (partial privatization); OPTAR [expansion unknown] Airline Services (privatization without option); Buenos Aires Catering [preceding word in English] Airline Food Services (privatization without option); and Argentine Shipping Lines (partial privatization or concession).

The list also includes the Government Coal Deposits (partial privatization or concession); the CONARSUR [expansion unknown] (transport sector consulting company) (privatization); the National Directorate of Highway Maintenance [Direccion Nacional de Vialidad] (partial concessions); Argentine Railways (concessions); ENCOTEL [National Post Office and Telegraph Service] (concessions); and YPF [Government Oil Deposits] (concessions in areas of exploration and exploitation)..

The list also includes Television Channel 11 (privatization); Television Channel 13 (privatization); Radio Belgrano (privatization); Radio Excelsior (privatization) and other media (privatization); the Buenos Aires City Subway System (privatization or partial or total concession); and the Ecologic Belt of the Metropolitan Area State Corporation [cinturon ecologico area metropolitana sociedad del estado] (ecologic coordination) (partial or total privatization).

The list also includes cultural services [prestaciones culturales] (Buenos Aires Municipality) (privatization or concession); the National Grain Board (total or partial concession to cooperatives); and the General Administration of Ports (total or partial concession).

The list concluded with the Mint (concession); North Dock Naval Shipyard [Talleres Navales Darsena Norte] (total privatization); the Industrial Plant [planta industrial] (expropriated by Law 19123) (total privatization); the Argentine Foundry (steelworks) (privatization); the State Gas Corporation (concession for distribution services); the SEGBA [Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services Company] (concessions); the State Water and Power Enterprise (concessions for distribution services); and the National Sanitary Works (concessions for services).

Retired Officers 'Arrested' in Canal Zone

PY1008011789 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2326 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug (DYN)—Diplomatic Sources have reported that retired Argentine Colonels Cesar Perlinger and Cesar Diaz, members of the Military

Center for Argentine Democracy (CEMIDA), were apparently arrested today by U.S. troops in the Panama Canal Zone during a confusing incident near a U.S. base.

The Argentine officers are in Panama to attend a meeting of military organizations for the democratization and integration of Latin America and Caribbean. They apparently participated in a demonstration in support of the Panamanian Government.

U.S. troops yesterday temporarily held 29 Panamanians, including several military officers, after incidents in an area adjacent to the U.S.-controlled canal zone. There was also a clash between U.S. Marines and people in the Arraijan zone. According to the diplomatic sources, it appears that today's demonstration was in repudiation of yesterday's events.

There was no immediate official report on the incident.

The U.S. officers attending the meeting had demanded the elimination of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) and that the OAS headquarters be moved outside the United States.

Italian Courts File Charges in Missile Sales

PM0708121489 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 30 Jul 89 p 6

[Antonio Cipriani report: "Italian 'Condors' to Argentina: Missile Trafficking Discovered"]

[Text] Rome—The project was named "Condor 2" and was for the sale of medium-range nuclear missiles to Argentina, Egypt, and Iraq. After 6 years of investigations the Rome judiciary has brought charges against nine people—the heads of a number of military companies formed recently by former employees of the National Industrial Applications Company [SNIA] BPD [Defense Division]. In addition 20 Swiss, German, Austrian, and Argentine "front" companies are also implicated. The headquarters of SNIA has been searched.

With the "Condor 2" missile you could launch a weather satellite into space, or fire a nuclear warhead with a range of 800 km. In other words, whoever possessed it could definitely alter the world strategic balance. And the recipients of these "jewels" of ballistic technology were Argentina, Egypt, and Iraq—all countries situated in "hot spots." The researchers and manufacturers were two major military concerns—one Italian, SNIA BPD, and the other German, Messerschmidt-Boeikow-Blohm. And the vendors? So far nine former employees of SNIA of Colleferro—who recently left the parent company, FIAT to establish a network of military concerns based in Rome and Aprilia, all interconnected and related to 20 foreign companies and financial concerns—have been charged with breaking the laws governing the arms trade. Judge Giorgio Santacroce assumes "international arms trading on a vast scale" connected with a substantial operation for recycling the money earned through a series of front companies—predominantly Swiss—used to make the illegal gains disappear.

The following have been summoned and charged, without being taken into custody: Riccardo Cecchetti, president of Conser of Rome; Eugenio Renzulli, former president of Intes of Rome and director of Conser; Silvano Lustrati, president of Intea of Rome; Sandro Fagioli, president of Intes; Mario del Papa, managing director of Meg and Rata, both of Aprilia; Roberto Coculo, employee of Conser and Intes; Vittorio Baglioni, former technical manager of Rata, now manager of Camma of Aprilia; Alberto Loy, former sole director of Intes; and Pietro Spadetta, managing director of Conser. All except Del Papa were until a few months ago employees of SNIA BPD. During the judiciary's inquiries the antiterrorist operations division of the caraibinieri force searched the various companies' offices and also those of SNIA in Colleferro. In the warehouses of Rata and SNIA the military also seized parts of the missile and components of the mobile nozzle [ugello mobile] with which the missile is equipped. The offices of Microtecnica of Turin and the Ifat Corporation in Zurich were also searched.

CIA agents were the first to realize that the "Condor 2" project could prove dangerous. A number of European companies were selling medium-range strategic missiles to Argentina and Egypt, which were involved in the project financed by Iraq. Then Mossad, worried about the Arabs' acquiring such advanced ballistic technology, began to investigate these "dual use" missiles—officially usable to launch weather satellites, but also potentially usable with nuclear warheads. Then came Britain's MI5, which perceived the threat of an attack on the Falklands with missiles that could reach the islands from the South American Continent. In Italy the first information about individuals and companies supplying missile technolgy to countries in "hot spots" reached Admiral Fulvio Martini, head of the Intelligence and Military Security Service, in 1985. Then the services set their intelligence inquiries under way in collaboration with the antiterrorist carabinieri.

Internationally, SNIA BPD, FIAT, and Messerschmidt are all accused. The "Condor" project was commissioned from SNIA in 1981 by the Special Aircraft Research Company of Cordoba [Argentina]. Just for weather forecasting? The Americans, British, and Israelis, criticizing the German and Italian Governments, on a number of occasions reported the project's violations of Missile Technology Control Regime accords, which include a long list of equipment and technology not to be sold even to "friendly countries."

The case of the weapons sales made by the six Italian companies, in which Fiat, too, is heavily implicated, also features in the half-yearly report on the secret services. "The following referrals to the judicial police emerging

from intelligence activities deserve mention: the identification of Italian enterprises and specialists cooperating with foreign industries in connection with missile projects; checks made abroad following the seizure in the port of Savona of a Danish ship carrying weapons; the alleged trading in arms equipment and technology between ports in Northern Europe and South Africa using merchant ships apparently employing Italian crews." The same report also cites figures for arms exports in 1988: 1,097 licenses were issued and military companies earned 2,395 billion lire.

President Dedicates Satellite Ground Station

PY0908181589 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1652 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem today dedicated the Las Lenas satellite ground station in Mendoza Province. Menem also visited the tourist complex and watched an international ladies ski tournament.

The press and public relations department of the National Telecommunications Enterprise (ENTEL) has reported that during the ceremony Valle Las Lenas Corporation President Ernesto Lowenstein handed over to national telephone company official Maria Julia Alsogaray the facilities that were donated by his corporation.

The ground station will be used for national and international direct dialing services, as well as telex, telefax, and television reception and transmission services. The station can transmit one 17.5-MHz television carrier and it can receive two television carriers.

Bolivia

Paz Zamora Comments on IDB Loan, U.S. Ties

PY0908143889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora said today that the Inter-American Development Bank, IDB, has announced that it is willing to grant Bolivia $1 billion over the next 4 years.

Paz Zamora held a news conference to explain the results of the talks he held with the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Panama, who were in Bolivia to attend the presidential inauguration.

Paz Zamora also referred to the talks held with U.S. Government officials.

He said that during the meeting, they established a basis for U.S.-Bolivian relations and the conditions for a possible increase in U.S. aid to Bolivia. Paz Zamora said that the U.S. delegation proposed three basic topics.

[Begin Paz Zamora recording] The first is related to the consolidation and development of democracy; the second concerns the economy and the U.S. wish that Bolivia continue economic policies that will lead to economic stability in the country; and the third concerns the U.S. wish for Bolivia to continue implementing and improving its plans in the struggle against drug trafficking and to assume this struggle as an international commitment. These three subjects are the bases of U.S.-Bolivian relations. These are three basic conditions that the United States has clearly proposed, and it is within this framework that the U.S. Government is willing to increase its aid to Bolivia. [end recording]

Regarding the cooperation of international financial organizations with Bolivia, Paz Zamora made it clear that the IDB will disburse $1 million during the next few years. This money will be allocated to the construction of the gas pipeline to Brazil and to other projects related to the thermoelectric program included in the accords signed with Brazil. This money will also be used to implement social projects.

Paz Zamora Assesses Talks With L.A. Presidents

PY0908182089 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] President Jaime Paz Zamora has asserted that the visit paid to Bolivia by six Latin American presidents and by representatives of other governments and international organizations has been good for the nation.

The chief of state held a meeting with the media at Government Palace, during which he assessed the talks held with his guests.

Regarding Argentina, Paz Zamora said that his government has proposed to set aside the natural gas debt issue that jeopardizes relations between the two countries in order to increase trade substantially. He added that in 10 days a national commission at a ministry level will meet to reach a series of agreements designed to achieve the objectives. Paz Zamora said that he thought that Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem had a strong northern accent, similar to that of Bolivians from Tarija or Camargo.

Regarding Alan Garcia, Paz Zamora said that they had both firmly agreed to meet shortly at Lake Titicaca to discuss bilateral issues. He said that the meeting might take place on board a ship that cruises the lake. President Paz Zamora said that they share common interests regarding the use of waterways.

He said that with Panamanian President [as heard] Miguel Solis Palma he had discussed issues related to his government's foreign policy. He added that Solis Palma had learned something in Bolivia, especially about the attitude of the two parties that formed the government.

According to Paz Zamora, Solis Palma wants to do something similar in his country with the opposition in order to establish a national unity government.

The Bolivian president said that Brazilian President Jose Sarney had told him that his government is willing to expedite all procedures involving the purchase of natural gas and the installation of [words indistinct].

Regarding the United States and representatives of international organizations, he said that they had promised to cooperate with Bolivia in various development programs.

The president praised the visit of UN representive [name indistinct] and said that Bolivia had promised to step up its struggle against drug trafficking.

Government To Continue Trial of Former President
PY0908114089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1946 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Excerpt] La Paz, 8 Aug (EFE)—Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora today said that his government will continue with the trial of former President Luis Garcia Meza, who is at large.

Congress ordered the arrest of Garcia Meza after his role in the theft and sale of the diaries of guerrilla leaders Ernesto "Che" Guevara and Harry "Pombo" Villegas was verified. The diaries were recovered by the Bolivian Government at a British auction. [passage omitted]

Government Calls for Municipal Elections
PY0908204589 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 3 Aug 89 p 6

[Excerpt] Through Decree No 22278, which was released last night, the government is calling for nationwide municipal elections on Sunday 3 December 1989 to renew the municipal councils and boards in departmental and provincial capitals, counties, and ports, and to elect regional municipal representatives. [passage omitted]

Correction to Paz Zamora Inaugural Address
PY0908193689

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Paz Zamora Delivers Inaugural Address," published in the 9 August Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 30:

page 30, column one, last paragraph, only sentence reads...factors of production [factores de produccion]. [new graf] I will repeat... (removing queried word, providing vernacular)

Chile

Candidate Buchi Returns From Argentina, Uruguay
PY1008031889 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Report from Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport by Ana Laura Cataldo]

[Excerpt] After a visit to Buenos Aires and Montevideo where he met Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem and Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, respectively, former Finance Minister Hernan Buchi returned home aboard a LAN [National Airline] airplane that landed today at 1900.

Hernan Buchi also met with Argentine and Uruguayan businessmen. [passage omitted]

Paraguayan Foreign Ministry Official Arrives
PY0908145289 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Oscar Cabello, director general of the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry, arrived yesterday on an official visit to strengthen the ties between our two countries. Cabello, who will stay in Santiago until 11 August, will hold several meetings with Chilean Foreign Ministry officials.

According to a report by the Paraguayan Embassy, his agenda includes a protocol meeting with Foreign Policies Director General Luis Winter Igualt. On 9 August, Cabello will meet with Manuel Cardenas, international economic relations deputy director, and other officials.

Cabello will return to Paraguay on 13 August.

Israeli 'Special Envoy' Explains Foreign Policy
PY0708184589 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Text] (Natanel Laroche), the special envoy of the Israeli prime minister, today asked Chilean officials and the Chilean people to try to understand the efforts being made by his country to bring peace to that region.

(Laroche), who explained his country's policies in detail, said that the program to achieve peace contains four points: the use of the peace agreement signed between Israel and Egypt as a basis upon which to construct definitive peace between the two nations; the establishment of peaceful relations with neighboring countries; a solution to the difficulties being faced by Arab refugees; and the implementation of a process leading to free elections in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, thus granting the Arabs living there the opportunity to elect their own representatives.

The Israeli envoy also expressed his satisfaction upon his return to Chile after 25 years. He said he was happy to see that Chile is optimistic and hopeful about the electoral process.

Junta Signs Bill on Sale of TV Channels

PY0908154789 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0601 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Santiago, 8 Aug (EFE)—The Military Junta, which replaced the legistlative branch in Chile in 1973, today approved a bill authorizing the private sector to purchase TV channels. The bill will be enforced before the end of the year.

The Chilean television sector has been traditionally in the hands of the state, which currently administers two channels, and of the universities, which currently own four channels.

The bill also authorizes the University of Chile, the Santiago Catholic University, the Valparaiso Catholic University, and the University of the North to sell their facilities to private companies.

The contents of this bill have been harshly criticized by the Chilean opposition that insists that any change to the current policies regarding Chilean television should be debated and approved by the new congress that will be elected in December 1989 and installed in March 1990.

Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, Junta chairman and Armed Forces commander in chief, has said that the private television concessions will "only be granted to Chilean having Chilean capital. There may be no foreigners among them."

The concessions will be granted after being approved by the National Television Council. This will comprise nine people who will hold their positions for 6 years, and whose chairman will be appointed by General Augusto Pinochet. The appointment must then be approved by the Senate, the role of which is currently being played by the Military Government Junta.

Ramon Briones, chairman of the Christian Democratic Party Supervising Committee, has stated that, although he is not against privately owned television stations, this law "creates a mechanism that will grant the concessions only to followers of the current military regime."

Creates National TV Council

PY0908163189 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpts] The Government Junta has approved, in general terms, the law that creates the National Television Council.

According to report by Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, the law, which contains 72 articles, will be submitted to the Legislative Committee that will introduce some corrections to the current text.

Legislative Branch sources have commented, however, that although the project has been approved, it cannot be promulgated, because the Supreme Court has not approved it. This step will be necessary because the law contains issues which require judicial branch approval. One such issue is the correct way of appealing the rulings of the Council. [passage omitted]

Adm Merino said that the law creating the National Television Council will be enforced 30 days after its approval as a law of the Republic. [passage omitted]

Pinochet Forbids Use of Name in Campaigns

PY0908213789 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 89

[By Eliana Enriquez]

[Text] In a communique released by the Press Secretariat of the Presidency, President Augusto Pinochet forbids individuals or groups from invoking his name in the appointment of candidates or the conduction of electoral campaigns. This prohibition does not mean, however, that through his officials, the president will not attempt to mediate in talks or help rapprochement among the different sectors, seeking to consolidate the achievements of the military administration.

The note was written by President Pinochet who is resting in his Melocoton home. It points out that the president believes that it is necessary to respond to the latest political events in which some political sectors have criticized an alleged intervention by the president. The note adds that throughout the current political process the president has stayed and will continue to stay away from issues that are under the strict jurisdiction of political parties and independent movements.

The communique goes on to say that the president is thus safeguarding the impartiality that he is obliged to maintain under the current political situation. The communique concludes by saying that this attitude is characteristic of a government of the Armed Forces and the Police, which is basically different from political governments.

Liberal Party Leaves Opposition Party Coalition

PY0908153989 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 1 Aug 89 p 8

[Excerpts] Liberal Party president Hugo Zepeda announced yesterday that his party quit the Coalition of Parties for Democracy, and separated from the Center Alliance Party, PAC, that is headed by German Riesco. [passage omitted]

A few moments before Zepeda joined the news conference, Liberal Party Vice President Guillermo Toro announced that his party has been legally registered in the First, Second, Third, Sixth, Eleventh, Twelfth, and Metropolitan Regions, with a total of 42,000 members. [passage omitted]

General Matthei on Armed Forces' Responsibility
PY0908224089 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 30 Jul 89 pp D-1, D-2

[Interview with Air Force Commander General Fernando Matthei by Raquel Correa at the Diego Portales Building in Santiago—date not given; passages between slant lines are Correa's insertions]

[Excerpts] [Correa] Some time ago you said that you would retire in March 1990, when the Congress begins work.

[Matthei] Yes, that is my decision.

[Correa] But a few days ago you said you would think it over.

[Matthei] I hope I will never have to think it over. The final decision will be made when the moment comes. It is my clear intention to retire.

[Correa] What circumstances would make you change your mind? Will this affect the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD]?

[Matthei] Not necessarily, /and just when it seemed that he had finished speaking, he added:/ There are currently some issues in the CPPD's government program that worry me. Without a doubt, an extremely tense situation will come about between the Armed Forces and the CPPD if it wins the elections and maintains these issues in its program.

"There are some defense topics in the CPPD government program /he says/ that have aroused deep concern in me and in the Air Force. [quotation marks as received]

[Correa] Are you referring to trials for human rights violations?

[Matthei] We are not worried about the trials. We are worried about the possibility of the laws being turned against the Armed Forces in the future. It is clear that the CPPD's government program envisions the abolishment of the amnesty law to the detriment of the Armed Forces. In our case /he adds/ there are 55 cases of people benefitting from the amnesty law for committing crimes against the Armed Forces. [as published] [passage omitted]

It states here /he says as he points to an underlined paragraph of the CPPD's government program/ that "the democratic government will promote the abolishment or annulment of the amnesty decree." [passage omitted]

It adds somethng else. It states that "the law will establish a statute of limitations over a 1-year period, which will annul any other laws on the subject." This will allow the people to file lawsuits against members of the Armed Forces for crimes committed more than 10 years ago and which fell under the 10-year statute of limitations. These two laws /he says, raising his voice/ are aimed particularly against the Armed Forces.

[Correa] General, you just said that you do not fear the trials. Why then are you against the annulment of the amnesty law?

[Matthei] In the past, when I was not yet Air Force commander, we were going through the early stages of a civil war. Today we hear a Peruvian deputy from APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] party saying that terrorism can only be fought with weapons; that it has caused 15,000 victims in the last 15 years; and that $11 billion has been lost as a result of uncontrolled terrorism. The situation in Chile is under control...

[Correa] At what price?

[Matthei] The war against subversion is unfortunate. We are trained for a war in which we and the enemy wear uniforms; in which each one knows who is on which side. Even if someone without a uniform is caught behind the lines, he can be considered a spy and be executed.

Here, however, the rules of the game are set by the terrorists. For example, they attack Carabineros who have nothing to do with them and do not even give them time to use their weapons... The struggle against subversion is very difficult and the groups that have to carry it out must work with great independence. This kind of situation creates hatred and resentment, and cases of personal revenge may occur.

[Correa] Do you admit that unjustified acts of cruelty, abuse, and excess took place in the struggle against subversion?

[Matthei] This happens anywhere there is a war against subversion. Some people are horrified by this, but they are not horrified at those who caused it, so they protest...

[Correa] Those responsible for peace and order cannot come to a house to arrest people without court warrants, not to mention throwing them into a furnace or executing them without trial...

[Matthei] There was deep hatred on both sides early on, and both sides committed abuses. It was then decided to establish the amnesty law, which had an effect on both sides. The idea today is to hold responsible those in Chile who averted that which is happening in Peru, Venezuela, or Colombia...the amnesty law was established to maintain social peace. If they want to turn it only against the Armed Forces, the Armed Forces will not accept it.

The great majority of the Armed Forces /he continued/ has nothing to do with that, but they are very sure that persons here were not responsible, but rather the institutions led by the commander in chief. The Armed Forces intervened on 11 September 1973 to bring order to the country.

[Correa] Nobody will judge them for that, but for the crimes committed...

[Matthei] Everything from 1973 through 1978 has been pardoned. If someone wants to change laws that have already become effective, there will be serious consequences. I believe that those who are proposing changes do not realize how serious these consequences could be.

[Correa] General, you say that the Armed Forces will not accept this. How will they stop it?

[Matthei] That is a point I will not discuss at this time, but our feeling is to completely reject cooperation with a government attempting to implement what is proposed in that program.

[Correa] Would stopping it mean impeding the transition to democracy, General?

[Matthei] Many things could happen.

[Correa] Could a new coup be staged?

[Matthei] You said that; I am saying that the Armed Forces have not decided on that. I only want to voice a very serious warning about the consequences of a revanchist attitude. That's all I can say. It will cause great difficulties. If we are put in the stocks tomorrow, as happened in Argentina, there will be serious consequences. The Armed Forces have not sought political power; they have had to struggle through a period of pacification.

[Correa] And what do they think about what has happened since 1978?

[Matthei] Everything that has happened since the amnesty law was established must be judged! There is no justification for either side. Those who participated in beheading or assassinations must be identified, tried, and sentenced! But the same must be done to those who killed Carabineros, those who made attempts on the President's life and killed his escorts. There is not God's pardon here!

But what has been covered by the amnesty law is covered. That's definite. However, cases that are on trial despite falling under the amnesty law must be completed. The Supreme Court must render the appropriate decisions. But we do not accept changes in the amnesty law in those cases where the law has become effective. We will not accept a revocation of the amnesty law nor changes in the statute of limitations law. Let this be very clear: We will not accept changes in these laws.

An effort to change the statute of limitations law to turn it against the Armed Forces will also have the most serious consequences. I will say only this at this time: It will have the most serious consequences! The Armed Forces today are willing to cooperate with any regime that should be elected, but they will not accept nor tolerate revanchism. Even speaking about these two laws is sufficient indication of a revanchist spirit, which we will not accept.

[Correa] So the choice is between justice or impunity?

[Matthei] No, because the courts are working. What we will not accept—and I want to make this clear—is changes in the laws. We are even prepared to accept the fact that certain officers may have to be sent to prison under the current laws. However, we won't have anyone changing the laws on things that happened 15 years ago. It will be up to the courts and the courts alone to decide on this problem in keeping with current laws.

[Correa] Then, General, you do not agree with the church, which believes that peace and reconciliation can be achieved only through truth and justice?

[Matthei] Truth and justice within the framework of the current laws. However, no one will be allowed to change the laws to harm the Armed Forces. The president has made it very clear: Any attempt to do that will end the state of law. The Air Force shares this feeling wholeheartedly. The officers, the noncommissioned officers, everyone has conveyed this feeling to me...I speak on behalf of the Air Force.

[Correa] Could one presuppose that the other branches of the Armed Forces have the same objections?

[Matthei] Yes, it is possible.

[Correa] Are the abrogation of the amnesty law and the establishment of a new statute of limitations for the crimes the only item of the opposition's program that the Armed Forces do not like?

[Matthei] We are not overly concerned about the economic, health, education, or foreign relations policies that the next administration will implement. That administration will be responsible to the nation for its policies. Future elections will indicate how well it has performed. We firmly believe that each administration must decide on its own course of action. I do not believe that any of us plans to interfere at all.

[Correa] Even if it means going against the national security doctrine?

[Matthei] Never! We have never believed in the national security doctrine as they do in Brazil. Never! In 1973 we had no other choice but to take over the government. On that occasion I was not in Chile, but I fully agreed with and shared the decision and we stand by it. The Chilean Armed Forces agree with that decision to this very day, just as they share the belief that corrections were needed to make Chile into a modern country with solid economic foundations for its progress. We feel that we have helped reestablish respect for private property, for life, with the exception of the human rights problems in the days of latent civil war. However, if the gentlemen of the CPPD tell us that the constitutional amendments are just the first step in tearing down the current Constitution and drafting a new one, then we will start worrying; we are the authors of the current institutional order, and the abrogation of this Constitution may have serious consequences for this order. However, we respect the will of the majority.

[Correa] Since you are unwilling to allow the investigation of crimes committed during the period covered by the amnesty, don't you want a new amnesty law covering the period from 1978 to the present?

[Matthei] No. As far as I know, nobody wants a new amnesty law for crimes. Those responsible for whatever happened in the country after 1978 must pay! Whatever happened before 1978 is covered by the amnesty law, and any changes to this law are unacceptable.

[Correa] General, if one of your sons had been arrested in those days and had remained missing forever, how would you react as a father, as a man? Wouldn't you expect at least an investigation to find out the truth?

[Matthei] It is a very hypothetical question... Many fathers, our own comrades in arms, lost their children. The whereabouts of many of them are still unknown. Many of our own comrades are missing. We will never know what happened. In those cases, the only thing left for us is resignation. It is sad, but it is the price of social peace and national reconciliation... The relatives of those who died must understand this.

[Correa] Andres Zaldivar, chairman of the Christian Democratic Party, has mentioned the need to discuss several issues with the Armed Forces, among them the defense program. Are you willing to meet with representatives of the CPPD?

[Matthei] I have already said that the meetings should not only be with the CPPD, but with all other sectors. Now then, there are certain difficulties with the CPPD. It might not be excessively difficult to talk with Zaldivar, and probably not with Aylwin. It will probably not be difficult to talk and reach certain agreements. The problem with the CPPD is that it regards itself as a rainbow and I consider it a clown's outfit, a patchwork of various colors. Among these color are the innocent white, like the foolish virgins of a friend I would rather not name, and the purple, the red. What I see is only fit for a circus show. What I would like to know is which patch to talk to. In this group there are people who are very strongly against the Armed Forces, revanchists, and very reasonable people. Am I going to talk with the reasonable people who are involved with the others now for the circus show? Who is going to govern tomorrow in that outfit? One needs another suit to work in...

[Correa] Does this mean that there is no chance of the CPPD and the Armed Forces reaching an agreement on the issues you are concerned about?

[Matthei] All over the world armed forces are disciplined, with a vertical chain of command and a clear doctrinary unity. Therefore, it is difficult to reach an agreement with a coalition of groups of different doctrines, with a coalition formed for an election.

[Correa] For a government.

[Matthei] Ah! We will see how long that government lasts as a united coalition. I think it will only be united as a government until they fill the first cabinet post. Then it will split up. What sort of agreement can one reach with a group like this? There are concrete issues on which we must state our position to those who intend to govern. They should be aware of what we are willing to accept and what not. There could eventually be talks.

[Correa] A negotiation?

[Matthei] A talk. We do not negotiate with someone who is not governing. In the future we will have to negotiate with the president, the finance minister, and all the others, whoever may be in power. In the meantime we can exchange opinions and hold talks and meetings at seminars, universities, or other study centers, as is the case now. The civilians are also invited, so that we may get to know each other. I do not mind them visiting any of our units. We are willing to receive visits from those interested in defense and who belong to the legally registered political parties. They are all welcome if they want to get to know us, our schools, our factories, our combat units. And this goes from now on. I have no problem with opening our doors so that they may get to know us better, but not to make political speeches.

[Correa] But time is running out, General, and there is no time for social and tourist visits. Are you willing to reach agreements?

[Matthei] We could talk with some political leaders, but it would only be very general talk. It is quite obvious that any negotiations would demand that we all were there. We are not so foolish as to allow them to divide us, by any circumstance, in the future. We have held talks with some political leaders in the past and we could hold more in the future as long as they are generalized talks, without

going into negotiations, because none of us, under any circumstances, is going to negotiate alone. The branches of the Armed Forces and forces of order act as a united group.

[Correa] But are you actually willing to formulate your concern through the appropriate channels concerning the coalition's defense program?

[Matthei] The Armed Forces are jointly analyzing the coalition's government program, and as soon as we get a clear picture of it we may begin some contacts at a level which we, the commanders in chief, will establish... All of us are engaged in teamwork regarding this issue.

[Correa] Will those contacts be private conversations?

[Matthei] There were private conversations in the past and there will be private conversations in the future. Conversations have been held for the sole purpose of exchanging information and sounding out people. Meanwhile, we are analyzing the program. The commanders may in the future decide whether it is advantageous or interesting to hold talks at a specific level in order to reach some agreements.

[Correa] Can such talks produce pacts?

[Matthei] Certainly.

[Correa] The agenda for the talks will include the trials, the role of the Armed Forces, the budget, the statute of the law of the Armed Forces...

[Matthei] Right. The Armed Forces is a professional institution whose course of action should be independent from the partisan politics of any administration in power.

[Correa] Do you think that it is absurd to review the budget of the Armed Forces?

[Matthei] Our country has shown that it is able to grow at a sustained 5-percent rate annually—which is satisfactory for any country in the world—despite the low price paid for some of our raw materials. It is obvious that we are not an unbearable burden for the progress of the nation... The Armed Forces fulfill a mission that involves the security of the nation. The value of the equipment that has been purchased, even in recent years, is much lower than that of the equipment bought by neighboring countries. I don't believe that a reduction of the defense budget would be a practical measure.

[Correa] The coalition program establishes that the Armed Forces will be in charge of preserving only our external security. Do you think this is harmful to the Armed Forces?

[Matthei] It would be most confortable for us if we were not called whenever there are strikes... If we were told that the Armed Forces would not be used for any internal security matter... That will be just fine!

[Correa] What they want to do is prevent the intervention of the Armed Forces in internal political affairs.

[Matthei] The Armed Forces doctrine has never considered participation in political affairs, because this can destroy them. Neither do the Armed Forces have any special devotion to internal political affairs.

[Correa] But they have been involved for 16 years...

[Matthei] We, the commanders in chief, have been engaged for 16 years. Within the Air Force it is only myself who is engaged in politics. No one else wants to engage in politics. I am speaking for the Air Force, because I cannot speak in behalf of the other branches.

[Correa] But it is not only the commanders in chief who have participated in the government...

[Matthei] Only those who have discharged government duties. No Air Force member is now discharging government duties. [passage omitted]

Merino, Matthei Discuss Opposition Proposal

PY0908224189 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 2 Aug 89 pp A-1, A-12

[Excerpt] General Fernando Matthei, Air Force commander and government junta member, has described the platform of the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD], which includes topics on the Armed Forces, as "very constructive" and a possible opening for talks on subjects of common interest for the Armed Forces and the opposition.

Gen Matthei was speaking following a Government Junta meeting in the Diego Portales building yesterday. He was asked about the CPPD's reaction to his interview that was published in EL MERCURIO newspaper on 30 August, in which he addressed the future legal aspect of the Armed Forces. Matthei said that he already expressed his views frankly and extensively in the newspaper article, so there was no need to comment further on them.

Regarding the CPPD's reply to his suggestion that the opposition's government program is open to talks and it is not an imposition, Gen Matthei said it is "excellent, I liked that reply very much."

Matthei added: "The CPPD's reply is very constructive and I think that a lot can be achieved from it."

The Air Force commander said that the opposition's reply "was discussed by the government junta today, and I think that it will allow us to soon sit at a table to discuss our points of view."

When asked about the CPPD's call for talks with the Armed Forces, Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, Navy commander and government junta member, referred to the subject in similar terms.

Merino said "we are studying this recent development," adding: "I am the one who will have to talk with them because I am the only one who deals with political issues in the Navy. I will talk with them (the CPPD) about whatever they wish. However, I have nothing to tell them, because the subjects with which I deal with have nothing to do with them."

Merino nonetheless said, "I am willing to talk to them," meaning the CPPD.

Adm Merino was asked if he shared Gen Matthei's views regarding disallowing the annulment of the current amnesty law. He replied that he certainly shared the views of Matthei. "How can we allow the annulment of the amnesty law! That law is 11 years old, and I know that the CPPD says it will annul it, but I say it will not be annulled."

He nonetheless admitted that he is willing to talk on this subject with the CPPD.

Adm Merino stated that on 30 August he said that the annulment of the amnesty law "could cause serious consequences to the country," adding that such situation "would not be desirable for the nation." [passage omitted]

Court Indicts Members of Lautaro Youth Movement
PY0908220989 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 29 Jul 89 p 6

[Excerpt] The military court has indicted two of the three alleged members of the Lautaro Youth Movement armed group. They are charged with having murdered two Carabineros.

Jorge Leandro Escobar Diaz, 24, alias Omar or Camilo, and Marco Antonio Mardones Villarroel, 27, alias Humberto were prosecuted under Article 1, No 2 [as published] of Law 18,314 which punishes terrorist activities, especially those perpetrated against Armed Forces, Police, and Security officials.

Sergio L.B., a 17-year-old minor is being held at the Puente Alto juvenile prison until the sixth Juvenile Court hands down its decision.

In statements made out of court, the three detainees have admitted to be members of a group called "Youth for the Life," and of a commando group of the Lautaro Youth Movement. [passage omitted]

Carabineros Arrest Rodriguist Militiamen
PY0908162189 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 31 Jul 89 p C-10

[Excerpts] Carabineros from the special OS-7 Department have arrested members of a "Rodriguist Militia" cell. They are charged with the murder of a shopowner in the San Jose municipality, nine armed assaults, and planting explosives in the electricity substation on Carrascal and Lourdes Streets.

Those arrested have been identified as Roberto Bastias Molina, alias Jose, 19; Wilson Antonio Castillo Osorio, 23; a 17-year-old minor whose initials are M.A.G.G., known as Jose Luis; and Luis Arturo Millan, alias Victor, 28. They are believed to be members of the so-called "Rodriguist Militia." [passage omitted]

The four have been turned over to the Second Military Court of Santiago on charges of violation of the Explosive and Arms Control Law, unlawful association for criminal purposes, robbery, and murder.

'Subversive Training' in Lautaro Terrorist Group
PY0908220389 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 1 Aug 89 pp A-1, A-12

[Excerpt] About 50 terrorists, many of them with subversive training abroad, are the main force of the terrorist organization "Lautaro Rebel and Popular Forces" [Fuerzas Rebeldes y Populares Lautaro]. This organization has been accused of killing five Carabineros over the last 12 months. The latest attack was carried out against two Carabineros, who were murdered in cold blood on Recoleta and Einstein Streets in the Conchali District.

This information is contained in a broad report about this subversive organization released yesterday by the Carabineros General Directorate. The report is based on the testimony of some of those arrested, and on witnesses and documents seized by specialized personnel.

According to the report, the FRPL is a terrorist organization, along with the Lautaro Youth Movement (MJL), which was created in December 1982 "under the umbrella of the United Popular Action Movement (MAPU).

The report says that the FRPL is the paramilitary sector of the group while the MJL is organized to form cadres and to recruit youth.

According to the specialized personnel, the FRPL currently comprises about 50 highly trained terrorists. Many of them were trained abroad, especially in Nicaragua. They operate in cells, or "brigades," each made up of about five people. The group reportedly also has connections with the Peruvian "Tupac Amaru" terrorist organization.

Apparently members of this subversive organization operate as leaders in the lootings of the poor districts, with the help of MJL members. This was verified in the lootings in the Michaely shop of San Diego Street.

The report says that this organization also carries out "larger operations" for which they have automatic weapons. They employ "many terrorists and the surprise factor as part of their cowardly action."

The FRPL has members throughout the country. Its members are basically operating in Santiago, Valparaiso, and Concepcion but it plans to enlarge its field of action.

The report adds that "this extremist organization follows the classic Leninist style with a secretary general running the organization and with members recruited from among criminals."

The report also indicates that this organization "has become one of the most cold-blooded terrorist groups in the country. They are real mercenaries with low moral and ethical values and who have made crime their way of life."

Regarding the MJL the report indicates that it is organized in local committees. Each committee has up to four "brigades." These are made up of between three and seven members, in accordance with their background.

The MJL is organized "without territorial or political division. It is run by operational chiefs who are MAPU militants. They maintain coordination and contact with MAPU."

The report adds that "most of the MJL members come from the criminal sectors. They are trained in internal security techniques to prevent infiltration. They are also trained to maintain safe houses, hideaways, clandestine arsenals and in the handling of small and automatic weapons."

The Carabineros report indicates that the first actions of the MJL members were aimed "at giving armed protection to holdups and lootings by mixing with the population. They call on the people to join the criminal actions thus making dozens of normal people into accomplices of criminal acts."

About 10 members of this terrorist organization have been arrested so far. [passage omitted]

Former Policeman Attacked; 1 Terrorist Killed

PY0908192789 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 89

[By Cecilia Morales from Chillan]

[Text] During a terrorist attack last night, one man was killed and two people were injured. The attack occurred at about 2000 last night along (Lincoyan) Street in the (Mardona) slum, in the (Wambili) jurisdiction.

Members of the (Moises Wentela) group, which is considered the armed branch of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), attacked a former SICAR [expansion unknown] officer. The terrorist command charge him with being a former member of the National Intelligence Directorate [DINA]. Retired Carabineros First Sergeant Marcos Riquelme was arriving home with his 20-year-old daughter when he was attacked.

The official Carabinero report explains that when Riquelme and his daughter arrived home, the daughter saw a couple embracing near their gate. As they got out of the car, the male terrorist pulled out a gun and shot at the former sergeant. Riquelme returned fire with his service pistol, killing the terrorist with a bullet to the head. This terrorist was later identified as Marco Aurelio Bahamondes Carvallo, 23-28 years old, a student mechanic. Another terrorist, who was hiding behind the wall, got into a waiting car and escaped. As the car sped away the terrorist fired at former Noncommissioned Officer Riquelme and his daughter. Riquelme was hit in the shoulder and in the leg, and his daughter Viviana was hit in the knee.

The report adds that two men escaped in the car, while two other men fled on foot. Carabineros found a message explaining the attack on the dead terrorist's body. The message states that the attack was conducted by the (Moises Wentela) Group, and charges Riquelme with having belonged to DINA. Officials, however, denied these charges and explained that Riquelme never belonged to DINA, he had merely served in some special Carabineros units. They add that he retired more than 5 years ago. The terrorists' message also states that Riquelme was being punished for actions carried out while he worked for the DINA.

Trade Surplus Recorded for First Half of 1989

PY0908172289 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Jul 89 p B-1

[Summary] With exports worth $4,064,100,000 against imports worth $3,031,100,000 over the January-June period, Chile has registered a trade surplus of $1,033,000,000 in the first half of 1989. During the same period last year, the surplus amounted to $176 million.